From: Caitlin Johnson, Policy Matters Ohio **Sent:** Monday, December 4, 2017 12:09 PM

To: Alexander, Steven

Subject: RELEASE: Expand Trade Adjustment Assistance to help displaced Ohio

workers

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A Expand Trade Adjustment Assistance to help displaced Ohio workers

Contact: <u>Hannah Halbert</u> 614.221.4505

Between 2001 and 2015, 124,000 Ohio workers received federal assistance after losing their jobs due to trade agreements with other nations. During that time, the Economic Policy Institute estimates that Ohio lost nearly as many — 121,500 — jobs to the trade deficit with China alone.

In a new report, Policy Matters Ohio examines the role of Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) in helping workers displaced because of free-trade pacts like the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA). Petitions for TAA assistance are often filed by unions or the relocating or closing companies themselves. Eligible workers receive a cash allowance if they enroll in a full-time training course. TAA also helps workers cover some of the costs of job searching or relocation. Workers 50 or over who take a new job that pays less than \$50,000 may receive a wage supplement of no more than \$10,000. TAA also helps trade-affected workers with a tax credit of up to 72.5 percent of health insurance premium costs.

In response to the Great Recession, President Obama expanded TAA to cover more workers under the federal Stimulus Package. In 2009, the annual number of Ohio's TAA-certified workers peaked at 22,214. Last year, 3,790 Ohio workers received TAA certification. As of November 2017, 3,615 Ohioans have been covered.

"TAA only covers a fraction of Ohio workers harmed by trade policy," said Policy Matters Researcher Hannah Halbert. "The 2009 jump in certified workers proves the expanded program was needed and well-used in Ohio, which still hasn't fully recovered from the recession."

Last year, TAA certifications clustered in counties with more blue-collar jobs. Six petitions in Cuyahoga County covered more than 500 jobs, as did seven in southwest Ohio. Two in Knox and Coshocton counties covered more than 700 jobs.

Meanwhile, workers in other countries have also suffered from bad trade agreements. In 2014, Mexico's poverty rate was higher than when NAFTA began. During NAFTA renegotiations, Canada declared the labor laws in both Mexico and the U.S. to be so poor that they provide an unfair and unjust competitive advantage. Specifically, Canada called for an end to so-called right to work laws that chip away at collective bargaining power for workers.

"It's clear that NAFTA-style free trade agreements have hurt workers while benefitting multinational corporations," Halbert said. "One thing we can do to tip the scales back in the right direction is to expand TAA. The program must be more robust to really help Ohio's displaced workers. 罗 0

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= A3631 Perkins Avenue Cleveland, OH | 44114 US



This email was sent to steven.alexander@ohiohouse.gov.
To continue receiving our emails, add us to your address book.

From: Michalowski, Joe

Sent: Friday, December 15, 2017 8:38 AM

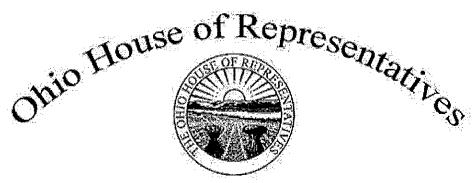
To: Michalowski, Joe

Subject: Becker Co-sponsor Request: Six Right-to-Work Constitutional

Amendments

Attachments: Co-sponsor Request- Six Right-to-Work Constitutional

Amendments.pdf



Representative John Becker Ohio's 65th House District

MEMORANDUM

To: GOP House Members

From: Representative John Becker Date: Friday, December 15, 2017

RE: Co-Sponsor Request: Six Right-to-Work Constitutional Amendments

The following are six separate Right-to-Work related constitutional amendments in no particular sequence. Please join me in co-sponsoring one or more of the below:

- 1. Private-sector Right-to-Work No worker should be required to subsidize a union as a condition of employment. Additionally, this will tell the world that Ohio is "open for business."
- 2. Public-sector Right-to-Work This is about freedom of association. Like for the private sector, no worker should be required to subsidize a union as a condition of employment.
- 3. Public-sector Prevailing Wage Repeals the requirement for taxpayers to pay artificially inflated wages, rather than those that are market-based.

- 4. Public-sector Paycheck Protection This prohibits state and local government employers from withholding union dues or fees from workers' wages. Additionally, unions will be prohibited from spending workers' money on political activities without workers' consent.
- 5. Public-sector Project Labor Agreements This is the Michigan model approved by the US Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit. State and local government entities will be prohibited from engaging in contracts that minimize competition for construction projects by requiring that only union or non-union labor can be considered. A level playing field will be required.
- 6. Public-sector Union Recertification Requires annual reconsideration and recertification of workers' bargaining units. This will open up competition for new bargaining units, will give workers a chance to have their voices heard, and will make union leadership accountable to their membership.

These proposals simply ask the General Assembly to put them on the ballot for the people to vote on them individually. Twenty-eight states and four out of five of Ohio's neighboring states have enacted Right-to-Work laws. Clearly, the nation's future is for all workers to have the right to work free of the burden of mandated union payments as a condition of employment. Ohio is being left behind, and it is time for the people to decide Ohio's future.

If you would like to co-sponsor this legislation or have any questions, please contact Joe Michalowski at (614) 466-8134 or joe.michalowski@ohiohouse.gov. Please indicate which constitutional amendment(s) you wish to co-sponsor. The deadline to co-sponsor is Wednesday, December 20, 2017, at 4:00 P.M.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this legislation.

John Becker

State Representative

Ol 2 Buch

65th House District



Representative John Becker Ohio's 65th House District

MEMORANDUM

To:

GOP House Members

From: Date:

Representative John Becker

RE:

Friday, December 15, 2017

Co-Sponsor Request: Six Right-to-Work Constitutional Amendments

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Thank you for your time and consideration of this legislation.

John Becker

State Representative

W & Buk

65th House District

From: report@hannah.com

Sent: Monday, December 18, 2017 3:30 PM

To: DL Hannah

Subject: Hannah News Stories for Monday, December 18, 2017

Monday, December 18, 2017

IN TODAY'S HANNAH REPORT:

Please click here to read the entire Hannah Report.

Today's Stories

- Kasich Seeks to Give Last 'State of State' in Westerville on March 6
- Kasich Names Laubert Acting Director of ODA
- Senate Plans to Address Voting Machine Funding, Obhof Says
- Controlling Board Approves Combined DYS/DRC Office Lease
- IG Chides DAS for IT Procurement Practices
- Becker Proposes Six Right to Work Constitutional Amendments
- ODH Elevates Flu Level to 'Widespread'
- Turnpike Commission Approves Budgets, Toll Modernization Plans
- OSU Toy Adaptation Program Helps Fix Toys for Children with Special Needs
- By the Numbers: Legislative Activity in 2017
- State Government Roundup: ODNR
- Campaign Corner: Jolivette; Endorsements
- Ohio Digest: U.S. HHS
- Ohio Attorney General Opinion Request
- Judicial Actions: Parades; Opinion

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From: Westlake, Libby

Sent: Wednesday, December 20, 2017 5:39 AM

To: Westlake, Libby

Subject: E-Clips for 12/20/2017

HOUSE E-CLIPS

12/20/2017

The Columbus Dispatch

Ohio's Greatest Online Newspaper

REPORT SUGGESTS STATE AGENCY ALREADY HAS VIOLATED NEW CONTRACTING POLICY

After The Dispatch revealed the Ohio Department of Administrative Services awarded \$15 million in unbid contracts to favored information-technology consultants, the agency promised to clean up its act.

NEW WHALEY AD PRAISES WORK, PROMISES JOBS

Dayton Mayor Nan Whaley has released a new internet ad touting the dignity of work as she seeks the Democratic nomination for governor.

Dayton Daily News

www.daytondallynews.com

LEHNER'S BILL AIMS TO CHANGE OHIO TEACHER EVALUATION SYSTEM

The Ohio Teacher Evaluation System (OTES) could see significant changes if a bill recently introduced by State Sen. Peggy Lehner (R-Kettering) becomes law.

STATE SENATOR TO RUN FOR MIAMI COUNTY COMMISSION

State Sen. Bill Beagle (R-Tipp City) today delcared his candidacy for a seat on the Miami County Commission.

THE ENQUIRER

'RIGHT TO WORK' IN OHIO? GOP LAWMAKER WANTS VOTERS TO CHOOSE

Undeterred by the acrimonious fight over Senate Bill 5, GOP Rep. John Becker wants voters to choose whether Ohio should become a right-to-work state.

From: Gongwer News Service

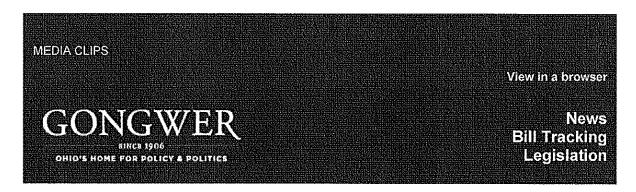
Sent: Wednesday, December 20, 2017 5:40 AM

To: Alexander, Steven

Subject: Ohio Media Clips, Wednesday, December 20

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NEWS

Federal judge dismisses legal effort to stop gas pipeline (Associated Press, 12/20/2017)

Ohio attorney general not joining legal fight over net neutrality (Associated Press, 12/20/2017)

'Right to work' in Ohio? Becker wants voters to choose (Cincinnati Enquirer, 12/20/2017)

Your tax bill savings might not be as big as advertised. The economic development benefits might not be, either (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 12/20/2017)

New Whaley ad praises work, promises jobs (Columbus Dispatch, 12/20/2017)

Report suggests state agency already has violated new contracting policy (Columbus Dispatch, 12/20/2017)

Stivers announces net neutrality bill (Columbus Dispatch, 12/20/2017)

Tax revision almost law; one more vote left (Columbus Dispatch, 12/20/2017)

Lehner's bill aims to change Ohio teacher evaluation system (Dayton Daily News, 12/20/2017)

Report: Ohio cities facing fiscal stress despite improving economy (Dayton Daily News, 12/20/2017)

Senate passes GOP tax bill; House to revote Wednesday (Dayton Daily News, 12/20/2017)

EDITORIALS

Editorial: 2012 effort a dog of a law (Columbus Dispatch, 12/20/2017)

Editorial: Truth and news under assault (Columbus Dispatch, 12/20/2017)

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From: Michalowski, Joe

Sent: Wednesday, December 20, 2017 11:43 AM

To: Michalowski, Joe CC: Basie, Margaret

Subject: Becker & Riedel REVISED Co-sponsor Request: Six Right-to-Work

Constitutional Amendments

Attachments: Becker & Riedel Co-sponsor Request- Six Right-to-Work

Constitutional Amendments.pdf

Importance: High

Representative Craig S. Riedel

has signed on to all six of these constitutional amendments as a joint sponsor with Rep. Becker.

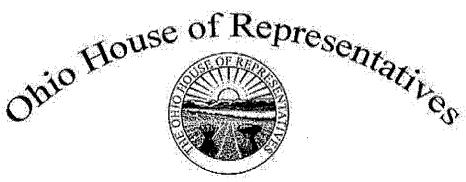
Each of the six amendments would appear on Ohio's general election ballot on November 3, 2020.

The current co-sponsors of all six are: Rep. Thompson, Rep. Brinkman, Rep. Dean, Rep. Keller, Rep. Roegner, and Rep. Zeltwanger. Rep. Lang is a co-sponsor on the following constitutional amendments: private-sector right-to-work (amendment #1); public-sector prevailing wage (amendment #3); and public-

sector project labor agreements (amendment #5).

Rep. Vitale is a co-sponsor on public-sector right-to-work (amendment #2).

Revised deadline to co-sponsor is TODAY at 5:00 PM. Please note which constitutional amendment(s) you wish to co-sponsor.



Representative John Becker Ohio's 65th House District

Representative Craig S. Riedel Ohio's 82nd House District

MEMORANDUM

To: GOP House Members

From: Representative John Becker and Representative Craig S. Riedel

Date: Wednesday, December 20, 2017

RE: REVISED: Co-Sponsor Request: Six Right-to-Work Constitutional Amendments

The following are six separate Right-to-Work related constitutional amendments in no particular sequence. Please join me in co-sponsoring one or more of the below:

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If you would like to co-sponsor this legislation or have any questions, please contact Joe Michalowski at (614) 466-8134 or joe.michalowski@ohiohouse.gov. Please indicate which constitutional amendment(s) you wish to co-sponsor. The deadline to co-sponsor is TODAY- Wednesday, December 20, 2017, at 4:00 P.M.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this legislation.

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John Becker State Representative 65th House District Craig S. Riedel
State Representative
82nd House District



Representative John Becker Ohio's 65th House District

Representative Craig S. Riedel Ohio's 82nd House District

MEMORANDUM

To:

GOP House Members

From: Rep

Representative John Becker and Representative Craig S. Riedel

Date: Wednesday, December 20, 2017

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Thank you for your time and consideration of this legislation.

John Becker

State Representative

65th House District

Craig S. Riedel

State Representative 82nd House District

C.S. Ril

From: Gongwer News Service

Sent: Thursday, December 21, 2017 3:05 PM

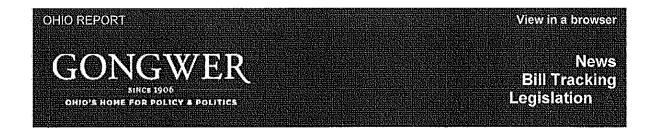
To: Alexander, Steven

Subject: Ohio Report, Thursday, December 21, 2017

Attachments: Dec21House.htm; Dec21Senate.htm; 171221dayplan.htm; Dec21.htm

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OHIO REPORT THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21

Speaker Tasks Universities With Engaging High Schoolers Impacted By Opiate Epidemic

Right-To-Work, Prevailing Wage Proposals Unveiled In House

Children Services Agencies See Growing Burden From Drug Crisis; Overdose Deaths Tallied

House Republican Announces Plan To Crack Down Drug Dealers

'Significant Update' On Belmont County Ethane Cracker Slated For 2018

Federal Judge Dismisses Property Owners' Lawsuit Against Nexus Pipeline

Groups Highlight Economic Impacts Of 'Dreamers' In Push To Restore DACA

High Court Green Lights Tax Board To Take Up \$500K NASCAR Appeal

Poll Finds Democrats With Big Lead In Generic Congressional Ballots; Bacon Touts Fundraising; Scott Officially Enters District 12 Race...

ACTIVITY REPORTS

House

Senate

CALENDARS

Day Planner

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House Activity for Thursday, December 21, 2017

HJR 7

UNION MEMBERSHIP (Becker, J., Riedel, C.) Proposing to enact Section 22 of Article I of the Constitution of the State of Ohio to prohibit laws, rules, and agreements that require employees of public sector employers to join or pay dues to an employee organization and to prohibit employee organizations from representing nonmember public sector employees in employment-related matters.

Gongwer Coverage

HJR 8

UNION MEMBERSHIP (Becker, J., Riedel, C.) Proposing to enact Section 22 of Article I of the Constitution of the State of Ohio to prohibit laws, rules, and agreements that require employees of private sector employers to join or pay dues to an employee organization and to prohibit employee organizations from representing nonmember private sector employees in employment-related matters.

Gongwer Coverage

HJR 9 📓

PREVAILING WAGE (<u>Becker, J., Riedel, C.</u>) Proposing to enact Section 43 of Article II of the Constitution of the State of Ohio to prohibit a public authority from requiring a contractor on a public improvement to pay the contractor's workers the prevailing rate of wages for work performed on the public improvement.

Gongwer Coverage

HJR 10 💹

PROJECT LABOR AGREEMENTS (<u>Becker, J., Riedel, C.</u>) Proposing to enact Section 2 of Article XV of the Constitution of the State of Ohio to prohibit certain requirements or prohibitions regarding labor agreements in government contracts.

Gongwer Coverage

HJR 11

COLLECTIVE BARGAINING (Becker, J., Riedel, C.) Proposing to enact Section 12 of Article XV of the Constitution of the State of Ohio to subject any public employee collective bargaining representative to an annual election to remain certified as the exclusive representative.

Gongwer Coverage

HJR 12

UNION DUES (Becker, J., Riedel, C.) Proposing to enact Section 12 of Article XV of the Constitution of the State of Ohio to prohibit dues and other fees payable to an employee organization from being deducted from the payroll check of a public employee and to prohibit those dues and fees from being used for political purposes unless authorized by the public employee. **Gongwer Coverage**

HB 454 🖼

CEMETERY LOTS (<u>Patterson, J., Arndt, S.</u>) To require a township to compensate the owner of certain unused cemetery lots and rights which the township reenters after lack of response from the owner. Am. 517.073

17 S. High St., Suite 630

Columbus Ohio 43215

Phone: 614-221-1992 | Fax: 614-221-7844 | Email: gongwer@gongwer-oh.com

Scott Miller, President | Kent Cahlander, Editor | Melissa Dilley, Mike Livingston, Dustin Ensinger, Jon Reed, Staff Writers

Click the fafter a bill number to create a saved search and email alert for that bill.

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Senate Activity for Thursday, December 21, 2017

SB 246

STUDENT REMOVAL (<u>Lehner, P., Manning, G.</u>) To enact the "SAFE Act" to revise the procedures for emergency removal of a student, to prohibit certain suspensions and expulsions of students in grades pre- kindergarten through three, to require each public school to implement a positive behavior intervention and supports framework in accordance with state standards, and to make an appropriation. Am. 3302.03, 3313.534, 3313.66, 3313.661, 3313.668, and 3319.46 and to enact section 3319.237

17 S. High St., Suite 630

Columbus Ohio 43215

Phone: 614-221-1992 | Fax: 614-221-7844 | Email: gongwer@gongwer-oh.com

Scott Miller, President | Kent Cahlander, Editor | Melissa Dilley, Mike Livingston, Dustin Ensinger, Jon Reed, Staff Writers

Click the Mafter a bill number to create a saved search and email alert for that bill.

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Daily Activity Planner for Friday, December 22 Legislative Committees

No legislative committees scheduled.

Agency Calendar

No agency meetings scheduled.

Event Planner

No events scheduled.

17 S. High St., Suite 630 Columbus Ohio 43215

Phone: 614-221-1992 | Fax: 614-221-7844 | Email: gongwer@gongwer-oh.com

Scott Miller, President | Kent Cahlander, Editor | Melissa Dilley, Mike Livingston, Dustin Ensinger, Jon Reed, Staff Writers

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Daily Activity Planner for Tuesday, March 22

Legislative Committees

Canceled: Senate Rules & Reference-(Committee Record) (Chr. Faber, K., 466-7584), Majority Conf. Rm., 11 a.m.

Canceled: Senate Session (Chr. Faber, K., 466-4900), Senate Chamber, 1:30 p.m.

If needed

Agency Calendar

Board of Building Appeals, Division of Industrial Compliance, 6606 Tussing Road, Training Room 1, Reynoldsburg, 8 a.m.

Event Planner

Presidential primaries/caucuses in Arizona, Utah & Idaho (Democratic) ACLU of Ohio and Ohio Justice and Policy Center news conference to release criminal justice report, Judicial Room, Sheraton at Capitol Square, 75 E. State St., Columbus, 10 a.m.

Rep. Nickie Antonio (D-Lakewood) and Rep. Janine Boyd (D-Cleveland Hts.) news conference on bill to remove firearms in certain domestic violence situations, Ladies Gallery, Statehouse, Columbus, 10:30 a.m.

Rep. Greta Johnson (D-Akron) and Sen. Capri Cafaro (D-Hubbard) news conference on gender diversification legislation, Ladies Gallery, Statehouse, Columbus, 2 p.m.

Sen. Troy Balderson (R-Zanesville) fundraiser, Athletic Club of Columbus, Tally Ho Room, 136 East Broad Street, Columbus, 5 p.m., (Event Host \$1,000; Event Sponsor \$500; Individual Attendee \$350 to Troy Balderson for State Senator) Sen. Jay Hottinger (R-Newark) fundraiser, Athletic Club, Gold Rm., 136 E. Broad St., Columbus, 5 p.m., (\$1,000, \$500 or \$350 to Citizens for Hottinger) Sen. Kevin Bacon (R-Columbus) fundraiser, Athletic Club, Crystal Rm., 136 E. Broad St., Columbus, 5 p.m., (\$1,000, \$500 or \$350 to Citizens for Kevin Bacon) Sen. Bill Coley (R-Liberty Twp.) fundraiser, Claddaugh, 585 S. Front St., Columbus, 5:30 p.m., (Hoste: \$1,000; Sponsor \$500; Individual attendee: \$350 to Friends of Bill Coley)

17 S. High St., Suite 630

Columbus Ohio 43215

Phone: 614-221-1992 | Fax: 614-221-7844 | Email: gongwer@gongwer-oh.com

Scott Miller, President | Alan Miller, Vice President | Kent Cahlander, Editor | Melissa Dilley, Mike Livingston, Dustin Ensinger, Jon Reed, Staff Writers

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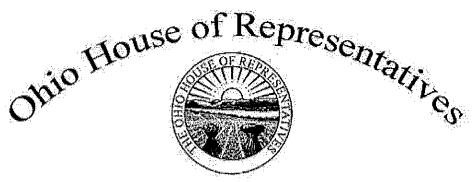
From: Thawley, Roanna

Sent: Friday, June 24, 2016 10:53 AM

To: Thawley, Roanna

Subject: Co-Sponsor Request: Public Sector Right-to-Work

Attachments: Co-sponsor Request Public Sector Right to Work Becker.pdf



Representative John Becker Ohio's 65th House District

MEMORANDUM

To:

GOP House Members

From:

Representative John Becker

Date:

June 24, 2016

RE:

Co-Sponsor Request: Public Sector Right-to-Work

I will soon be introducing a public sector right-to-work bill.

This legislation:

- Provides public sector workers the choice to opt out of union representation and dues.
- Allows non-union employees to voluntarily make financial contributions to a union.
- Protects unions from the requirement of representing non-union employees.
- Appropriates \$30,000 in fiscal year 17 for pamphlets and brochures.

If you would like to co-sponsor this legislation or have any questions, please contact Roanna Thawley at (614) 466-8134 or <u>Roanna.Thawley@ohiohouse.gov</u>. The deadline to co-sponsor is COB, **Wednesday**, **June 29**, **2016**.

Thank you for your consideration.

John Becker

65th House District

Roanna Thawley

Legislative Aide State Representative John Becker | Ohio House District 65 77 S. High Street, 12th Floor | Columbus, OH 43215 (614) 466-8134 roanna.thawley@ohiohouse.gov



Representative John Becker Ohio's 65th House District

MEMORANDUM

To: GOP House Members From: Representative John Becker

Date: June 24, 2016

RE: Co-Sponsor Request: Public Sector Right-to-Work

I will soon be introducing a public sector right-to-work bill.

This legislation:

- Provides public sector workers the choice to opt out of union representation and dues.
- Allows non-union employees to voluntarily make financial contributions to a union.
- Protects unions from the requirement of representing non-union employees.
- Appropriates \$30,000 in fiscal year 17 for pamphlets and brochures.

If you would like to co-sponsor this legislation or have any questions, please contact Roanna Thawley at (614) 466-8134 or Roanna.Thawley@ohiohouse.gov. The deadline to co-sponsor is COB, Wednesday, June 29, 2016.

Thank you for your consideration.

John Becker

65th House District

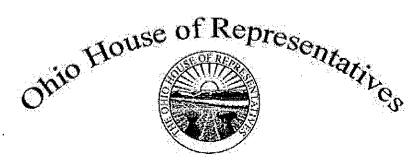
From: Financial Institutions Housing & Urban Development Committee

Sent: Tuesday, November 21, 2017 6:15 AM

To: Hucke, Justin

Subject: FIHUD Committee Announcement - 11.28.2017

Attachments: notice.pdf



ANNOUNCEMENT OF COMMITTEE MEETING

COMMITTEE:

Financial Institutions, Housing, and Urban Development

CHAIR:

Jonathan Dever

DATE:

Tuesday, November 28, 2017

TIME:

9:00 AM

ROOM:

Room 114

AGENDA

BILL	SPONSOR	TITLE	<u>STATUS</u>
H. B. No. 390	Rep. Merrin	Clarify computation of timelines for forcible entry and detainer	1st Hearing Sponsor
H. B. No. 386	Rep. Henne, Rep. Kelly	Modify credit reporting agency fees for a credit report freeze	1st Hearing Sponsor
H. B. No. 320	Rep. Hagan, Rep. Roegner	Inform public about state financial status	2nd Hearing Proponent
H. B. No. 353	Rep. Reineke	Exempt loop credit and reward cards from Unclaimed Funds Law	3rd Hearing Poss. Am. Prop/Opp/IP

H. B. No. 282	Rep. Hambley	Prohibit criminal mischief against residential rental property	4th Hearing Poss. Am. Prop/Opp/IP
H. B. No. 329	Rep. Pelanda	Modify law governing pyramid promotional schemes	4th Hearing Poss. Vote Prop/Opp/IP

The Chair respectfully requests **an electronic copy** of oral and/or written testimony and all amendments to

<u>FinancialInstitutionsHousing&UrbanDevelopmentCommittee@ohiohouse.gov</u> at least 24 hours prior to committee.



ANNOUNCEMENT OF COMMITTEE MEETING

COMMITTEE:

Financial Institutions, Housing, and Urban Development

CHAIR:

Jonathan Dever

DATE:

Tuesday, November 28, 2017

TIME: ROOM: 9:00 AM Room 114

AGENDA

BILL H. B. No. 390	SPONSOR Rep. Merrin	TITLE Clarify computation of timelines for forcible entry and detainer	STATUS 1st Hearing Sponsor
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H. B. No. 329	Rep. Pelanda	Modify law governing pyramid promotional schemes	4th Hearing Poss. Vote Prop/Opp/IP

The Chair respectfully requests an electronic copy of oral and/or written testimony and all amendments to FinancialInstitutionsHousing&UrbanDevelopmentCommittee@ohiohouse.gov at least 24 hours prior to committee.

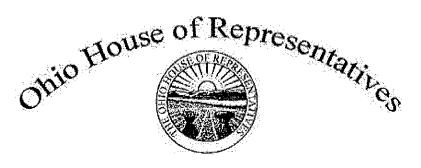
From: Financial Institutions Housing & Urban Development Committee

Sent: Friday, December 1, 2017 9:39 AM

To: Hucke, Justin

Subject: FIHUD Committee Announcement - 12.5.2017

Attachments: notice.pdf



ANNOUNCEMENT OF COMMITTEE MEETING

COMMITTEE:

Financial Institutions, Housing, and Urban Development

CHAIR:

Jonathan Dever

DATE:

Tuesday, December 5, 2017

TIME:

9:00 AM

ROOM:

Room 114

AGENDA

$\underline{\mathrm{BILL}}$	SPONSOR	TITLE	<u>STATUS</u>
H. B. No. 386	Rep. Henne, Rep. Kelly	Modify credit reporting agency fees for a credit report freeze	2nd Hearing Proponent
H. B. No. 390	Rep. Merrin	Clarify computation of timelines for forcible entry and detainer	2nd Hearing Proponent
H. B. No. 353	Rep. Reineke	Exempt loop credit and reward cards from Unclaimed Funds Law	4th Hearing Poss. Vote Prop/Opp/IP

The Chair respectfully requests **an electronic copy** of oral and/or written testimony and all amendments to

There is a national trend of states moving to implement right-to-work laws. With Kentucky being the 27th state to continue that trend, it's time Ohio steps up to the plate. All of Ohio's neighboring states, with the exception of Pennsylvania, have right-to-work laws on the books.

This legislation:

- Provides public sector workers the choice to opt out of union representation and dues.
- Allows non-union employees to voluntarily make financial contributions to a union.
- Protects unions from the requirement of representing non-union employees.
- Appropriates \$30,000 in fiscal year 17 for pamphlets and brochures.

If you would like to co-sponsor this legislation or have any questions, please contact Roanna Thawley at (614) 466-8134 or Roanna. Thawley@ohiohouse.gov. The deadline to co-sponsor is COB, Monday, February 6, 2017. Thank you for your consideration.

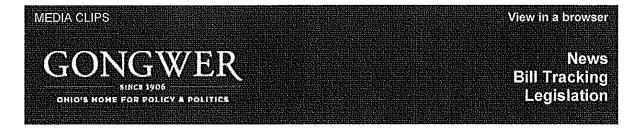
Roanna Thawley

Legislative Aide State Representative John Becker | Ohio House District 65 77 S. High Street, 12th Floor | Columbus, OH 43215 (614) 466-8134 roanna.thawley@ohiohouse.gov From: Gongwer News Service

Sent: Tuesday, February 14, 2017 5:35 AM

To: Alexander, Steven

Subject: Ohio Media Clips, Tuesday, February 14



SANITANIAN INGANINAN INGANINAN INGANINAN INGANINAN INGANINAN INGANINAN INGANINAN INGANINAN INGANINAN INGANINAN

NEWS

Election, Women's March prompt women of color to seek office (Associated Press, 2/14/2017)

How young is too young? 36,000 elementary school suspensions (Cincinnati Enquirer, 2/14/2017)

Kasich: Enough with the 'Rust Belt' (Cincinnati Enquirer, 2/14/2017)

'Right-to-work' bill introduced in Ohio House (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 2/14/2017)

Josh Mandel, gearing up for 2018 Senate run, has recruited campaign leaders in all 88 Ohio counties (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 2/14/2017)

Learn how much a new college savings proposal in Ohio could save you (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 2/14/2017)

Ohio Gov. John Kasich wants Sandusky to host this year's State of the State address (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 2/14/2017)

That time President Donald Trump crashed a Lindner's wedding: Ohio Politics Roundup (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 2/14/2017)

Kasich to give State of State in home of roller coasters and merry-gorounds (Columbus Dispatch, 2/14/2017)

Statehouse maneuvering: Householder wants off committees (Columbus Dispatch, 2/14/2017)

The Daily Briefing: Former congressman, state lawmaker form lobbying firm (Columbus Dispatch, 2/14/2017)

The Daily Briefing: Trump's first presidential visit to Ohio canceled (Columbus Dispatch, 2/14/2017)

Your Right to Know: Drug-death records would be secret (Columbus Dispatch, 2/14/2017)

China shipments fuel local drug trade (Dayton Daily News, 2/14/2017)

Gov. Kasich looks to make big changes to K-12 schools (Dayton Daily News, 2/14/2017)

Ohio businesses set to cash in on pot (Dayton Daily News, 2/14/2017)

What do you want Gov. Kasich to focus on in 2017? (Dayton Daily News, 2/14/2017)

Bill to honor Walker hits House floor for 3rd time (Toledo Blade, 2/14/2017)

Kasich looks to deliver 2017 address in Sandusky (Toledo Blade, 2/14/2017)

Senators' registry bill moves forward (Toledo Blade, 2/14/2017)

EDITORIALS

Judges do their job in checking the executive (Akron Beacon Journal, 2/14/2017)

Editorial: Funding concerns still exist for College Credit Plus program (Canton Repository, 2/14/2017)

Editorial: More needed to fight overdoses (Columbus Dispatch, 2/14/2017)

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From: Westlake, Libby

Sent: Tuesday, February 14, 2017 5:56 AM

To: Westlake, Libby

Subject: E-Clips for 2/14/2017

HOUSE E-CLIPS

2/14/2017



LOBBYIST PUSHING INTERSTATE CONNECTING TOLEDO, COLUMBUS

A transportation lobbyist says he hopes the Trump administration's promise to invest billions on infrastructure could revive long dormant plans to build an interstate between Toledo and Columbus.

The Columbus Dispatch

HOUSE SPEAKER UNHAPPY THAT AMBITIOUS LARRY HOUSEHOLDER WANTS OFF COMMITTEES

A lawmaker trying to resign from his recently approved committee assignments is unusual, especially for a freshman.

KASICH TO GIVE STATE OF STATE IN HOME OF ROLLER COASTERS AND MERRY-GO-ROUNDS

With an up-and-down record of success dealing with his fellow Republicans in the Ohio legislature, perhaps it's appropriate that Gov. John Kasich deliver his annual State of the State speech near the Roller Coaster Capital of the World.

YOUR RIGHT TO KNOW: DRUG-DEATH RECORDS WOULD BE SECRET

The administration of Gov. John Kasich is out to add exemption (gg) to the Ohio public records act.

THE DAILY BRIEFING: FORMER CONGRESSMAN, STATE LAWMAKER FORM LOBBYING FIRM

A former congressman, the former state tax commissioner and the former No. 2 leader of the Ohio House have teamed up to form a new lobbying and consulting firm.

Dayton Daily News

WHAT DO YOU WANT GOV. KASICH TO FOCUS ON IN 2017?

Once again, Ohio Gov. John Kasich is taking his annual State of the State address to the General Assembly on the road, and this time he is asking lawmakers to travel to Sandusky for the event on April 4.

THE PLAIN DEALER

JOSH MANDEL, GEARING UP FOR 2018 SENATE RUN, HAS RECRUITED CAMPAIGN LEADERS IN ALL 88 OHIO COUNTIES

State Treasurer Josh Mandel, who continues to assemble an early-developing campaign operation for U.S. Senate in 2018, on Monday announced the names of campaign leaders in all 88 Ohio counties.

LEARN HOW MUCH A NEW COLLEGE SAVINGS PROPOSAL IN OHIO COULD SAVE YOU

A proposal introduced in Ohio Senate last month could sharply increase state income tax savings for some people contributing to 529 Ohio college saving plans.

'RIGHT-TO-WORK' BILL INTRODUCED IN OHIO HOUSE

Legislation that would make Ohio a "right-to-work" state is back, but it's unclear how far the controversial measure will go after voters rejected a prior effort to scale back public union bargaining rights.

THAT TIME PRESIDENT DONALD TRUMP CRASHED A LINDNER'S WEDDING: OHIO POLITICS ROUNDUP

Youngstown is off for President Donald Trump. Sandusky is on for Gov. John Kasich. And Cliff Rosenberger finds a not-so-subtle way to show there's only one Ohio House speaker at a time.

THE ENQUIRER

How young is too young? 36,000 elementary school suspensions

Ohio schools dole out up to 36,000 suspensions to elementary students each year – a number that stunned a Republican lawmaker into seeking a ban on many suspensions and expulsions.

THE BLADE

SENATORS' REGISTRY BILL MOVES FORWARD

Under a bill about to be introduced, Ohio would join five states that require certain offenders with violent pasts to register their whereabouts, much as sex offenders are required to do.

KASICH LOOKS TO DELIVER 2017 ADDRESS IN SANDUSKY

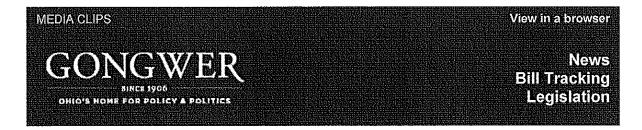
Sandusky had wanted Gov. John Kasich to deliver his final State of the State address as part of the city's bicentennial celebration in 2018, but it's more than happy to welcome him a year early.

From: Gongwer News Service

Sent: Wednesday, February 15, 2017 5:36 AM

To: Alexander, Steven

Subject: Ohio Media Clips, Wednesday, February 15



NEWS

Kasich would block access to heroin death reviews (Cincinnati Enquirer, 2/15/2017)

Kasich: Teachers should job shadow with businesses to renew licenses (Cincinnati Enquirer, 2/15/2017)

Ohio Dems in limbo on governor's race (Cincinnati Enquirer, 2/15/2017)

Josh Mandel's Senate campaign names Portage County chairwoman -- but it's news to her (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 2/15/2017)

Ohio teachers would have to job shadow at a business to renew licenses under Gov. John Kasich's budget (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 2/15/2017)

Sen. Rob Portman says he listened to fierce critics of Betsy DeVos but 'did my own research' (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 2/15/2017)

Superintendents: Cut state tests, end As and Fs on state report cards (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 2/15/2017)

Talk it out: Should Ohio become a 'right to work' state? (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 2/15/2017)

Are local resources enough to combat Ohio's opioid epidemic? (Columbus Dispatch, 2/15/2017)

Brown, Portman say Flynn made right decision to resign (Columbus Dispatch, 2/15/2017)

Latest study: Ohio-style Medicaid may save \$1B a year (Columbus Dispatch, 2/15/2017)

Most vocational schools would lose funding under Kasich proposal (Columbus Dispatch, 2/15/2017)

Ohio House Dems say GOP tax cuts aren't working (Columbus Dispatch, 2/15/2017)

Ohio nurses want law limiting nurse-patient ratios (Columbus Dispatch, 2/15/2017)

The Daily Briefing: Rob Secaur new executive director of Ohio GOP (Columbus Dispatch, 2/15/2017)

Trump may shrink EPA, but effects in Ohio to be delayed (Columbus Dispatch, 2/15/2017)

Cursive handwriting could be required for Ohio students again (Dayton Daily News, 2/15/2017)

New national security adviser a Dayton native (Dayton Daily News, 2/15/2017)

Ohio lawmakers react to resignation of Michael Flynn (Dayton Daily News, 2/15/2017)

Mandel lists campaign leaders for Senate bid (Toledo Blade, 2/15/2017)

Senators' registry bill moves forward (Toledo Blade, 2/15/2017)

EDITORIALS

Bid to ban Ohio sanctuary cities a craven political ploy: editorial (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 2/15/2017)

'You're fired' (Toledo Blade, 2/15/2017)

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From: Westlake, Libby

Sent: Wednesday, February 15, 2017 5:49 AM

To: Westlake, Libby

Subject: E-Clips for 2/15/2017

HOUSE E-CLIPS

2/15/2017

The Columbus Dispatch

Ohio's Greatest Online Newspaper

ARE LOCAL RESOURCES ENOUGH TO COMBAT OHIO'S OPIOID EPIDEMIC?

Roger T. Winemiller lost his sister to a heroin overdose the night before Easter last year.

TRUMP MAY SHRINK EPA, BUT EFFECTS IN OHIO TO BE DELAYED

President Donald Trump's first few weeks have left Washington disoriented and environmentalists worried.

OHIO HOUSE DEMS SAY GOP TAX CUTS AREN'T WORKING

House Democrats say Ohioans need to wake up and realize the Republican tax plans passed over the past decade have not been working to create jobs.

MOST VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS WOULD LOSE FUNDING UNDER KASICH PROPOSAL

Like Ohio's libraries and K-12 school districts, vocational schools soon could be feeling the squeeze of Ohio's tightening purse strings.

LATEST STUDY: OHIO-STYLE MEDICAID MAY SAVE \$1B A YEAR

Even if your eyes glaze at the mere mention of Medicaid, this might widen your peepers: Ohio's revamped setup is saving taxpayers \$1 billion annually — and the amount is growing.

OHIO NURSES WANT LAW LIMITING NURSE-PATIENT RATIOS

Arguing that hospitals put patient care at risk by overworking essential front-line caregivers, nurses across Ohio are pushing lawmakers to limit the number of patients for whom they are responsible.

EDUCATION INSIDER: SOME IN COLUMBUS SCHOOLS DATA-RIGGING SCANDAL YET TO BE PUNISHED

Will the state Department of Education ever discipline dozens of Columbus City Schools principals and other administrators who participated in the district's data scandal?

THE DAILY BRIEFING: ROB SECAUR NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF OHIO GOP

The Ohio Republican Party has a new person in charge of the day-to-day operations.

THE DAILY BRIEFING: JOANNA SAUL HIRED AS PLANNED PARENTHOOD STATE LEGISLATIVE LIAISON

Joanna Saul has a new job with Planned Parenthood of Greater Ohio as vice president of government affairs and public advocacy.

Dayton Daily News

2 REASONS ONE DEMOCRAT SAYS 'OHIO IS GOING IN A TERRIBLE DIRECTION'

Ohio Democratic Party Chairman David Pepper will visit Butler County tonight to talk about the upcoming statewide political cycle.

WEST CHESTER WEIGHS IN ON OHIO'S 'RIGHT-TO-WORK' LEGISLATION

West Chester Twp. trustees say it would be great if Ohio turned into a "right to work" state, because then the township wouldn't have to.

THE PLAIN DEALER

TALK IT OUT: SHOULD OHIO BECOME A 'RIGHT TO WORK' STATE?

Legislation has been introduced for a second time that would allow Ohio to join the growing ranks of states limiting union membership and collective bargaining. The measure was placed before state lawmakers Monday.

CURSIVE HANDWRITING BACK IN SCHOOLS? SOME LEGISLATORS WANT TO REQUIRE IT

Some state legislators have renewed efforts from two years ago to bring cursive handwriting back to Ohio's elementary schools.

<u>JOSH MANDEL'S SENATE CAMPAIGN NAMES PORTAGE COUNTY CHAIRWOMAN -</u> - BUT IT'S NEWS TO HER

Senate candidate Josh Mandel's announcement that he had recruited campaign chairs in each of Ohio's 88 counties caught at least one person by surprise: Janet Esposito, the woman he listed as leading the charge for him in Portage County.

Ohio teachers would have to job shadow at a business to renew licenses under Gov. John Kasich's budget

Ohio teachers would have to job shadow someone in a local business to renew their licenses under a provision in Gov. John Kasich's state budget proposal.

SUPERINTENDENTS: CUT STATE TESTS, END AS AND FS ON STATE REPORT CARDS

The state should stop grading schools and school districts with A through F grades, while also cutting the amount of state tests and making sure the tests help teachers teach students better, a group of local superintendents says.

ED FITZGERALD STILL HAS MONEY IN HIS CAMPAIGN ACCOUNT. HERE'S HOW HE HAS BEEN SPENDING IT

Ed FitzGerald, the former Cuyahoga County executive who has kept out of the public eye since an unsuccessful bid for governor more than two years ago, continues to draw from a campaign account that started 2017 with a balance of nearly \$85,000.

STATE IS IGNORING THE PUBLIC'S WISHES IN ITS ESSA PLAN, 10 LOCAL SUPERINTENDENTS SAY

A group of local superintendents and other educators questioned Monday the Ohio Department of Education's avoidance of any real changes the public sought in its proposed state education plan under the federal Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).

BID TO BAN OHIO SANCTUARY CITIES A CRAVEN POLITICAL PLOY: EDITORIAL

What does it mean to be a sanctuary city? To Ohio Treasurer Josh Mandel, it seems, nothing more nor less than another stepping stone to higher office.

THE ENQUIRER

KASICH: TEACHERS SHOULD JOB SHADOW WITH BUSINESSES TO RENEW LICENSES

Teachers would have to complete "externships" – essentially, a high-level job shadow – with a local business to renew their licenses under a provision in Gov. John Kasich's budget proposal.

JOHN KASICH WOULD BLOCK ACCESS TO HEROIN DEATH REVIEWS

Gov. John Kasich's budget would give counties a new way to review drug overdose deaths, but many components of those investigations into Ohio's drug epidemic could be shielded from public view.

OHIO DEMS HUNGRY FOR 2018 WIN, BUT IN LIMBO ON GOVERNOR'S RACE

Ohio Democrats have no a shortage of "maybes" lining up for the 2018 governor's race, with a dozen candidates pondering a bid.

THE BLADE

MANDEL LISTS CAMPAIGN LEADERS FOR SENATE BID

Republican Senate candidate Josh Mandel has named campaign chairmen for his planned 2018 U.S. Senate run in every county.

SECAUR NAMED GOP EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

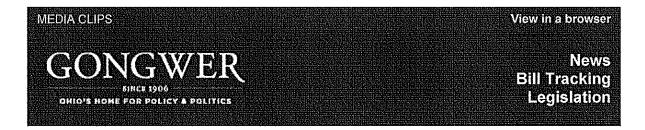
Ohio Republican Chairman Jane Timken appointed Rob Secaur as the state party's new executive director.

From: Gongwer News Service

Sent: Thursday, February 16, 2017 5:20 AM

To: Alexander, Steven

Subject: Ohio Media Clips, Thursday, February 16



TANDA MATANA MATANA

NEWS

Ohio bill: Kill the tampon tax (Cincinnati Enquirer, 2/16/2017)

Andrew Puzder, Trump's Cleveland-born labor secretary nominee, withdraws amid controversy (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 2/16/2017)

Gov. John Kasich headed for Germany, England (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 2/16/2017)

Marsy's Law for Ohio begins campaign for crime victim ballot initiative (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 2/16/2017)

Ohio congress members Marcia Fudge, Tim Ryan back Jaime Harrison of SC for DNC chair (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 2/16/2017)

Talk it out: Should Ohio become a 'right to work' state? (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 2/16/2017)

Sherrod Brown, 10 other senators, call for special investigation of Flynn (Columbus Dispatch, 2/16/2017)

Sherrod Brown, Ohio labor leader glad that Puzder withdrew (Columbus Dispatch, 2/16/2017)

The Daily Briefing: It's official, Portman supports Gorsuch for Supreme Court (Columbus Dispatch, 2/16/2017)

The Daily Briefing: Kasich talking security, jobs in Germany, United Kingdom (Columbus Dispatch, 2/16/2017)

Crime victims seek more rights and protections in Ohio constitution (Dayton Daily News, 2/16/2017)

Ohio working on marijuana 'seed to sale' tracking (Dayton Daily News, 2/16/2017)

Should Ohio schools start after Labor Day? (Dayton Daily News, 2/16/2017)

Some speed limits in Ohio may change daily depending on traffic (Dayton Daily News, 2/16/2017)

Ohio clears wording of cocaine sentencing (Toledo Blade, 2/16/2017)

EDITORIALS

Trump, Flynn and the Russian link (Akron Beacon Journal, 2/16/2017)

Editorial: Enrollment drop is real problem (Columbus Dispatch, 2/16/2017)

Escaping DeVos (Toledo Blade, 2/16/2017)

We owe them (Toledo Blade, 2/16/2017)

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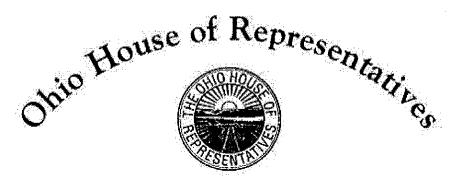
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From: Miller, Josh

Sent: Friday, February 17, 2017 1:12 PM

To: Members_All; Staff_All

Subject: Co-sponsor Request: Private Sector Right to Work



Tom Brinkman, Jr. State Representative, 27thDistrict MEMORANDUM

To:

All House Members

From:

Representative Tom Brinkman, Jr.

Date:

February 17th, 2017

RE:

Private Sector Right to Work

I will soon be introducing Private Sector Right to Work legislation. Our neighboring states of Michigan, Kentucky, West Virginia, and Indiana have passed Right to Work, and it is long overdue here in Ohio.

This important bill will help make Ohio businesses more competitive and prosperous by eliminating forced union dues and memberships. No one should be forced to pay a union to get or keep a job.

If you are interested in co-sponsoring please contact my legislative aide Josh Miller at 614-644-6886 or <u>Josh.Miller@ohiohouse.gov</u> by the close of business on March 3rd.

Thank you,

Tom Brinkman, Jr.
Ohio House of Representatives
District 27

From: Westlake, Libby

Sent: Friday, February 24, 2017 5:25 AM

To: Westlake, Libby

Subject: E-Clips for 2/24/2017

HOUSE E-CLIPS

2/24/2017



OHIO, WISCONSIN KICK-START TALKS ON MANAGING TRUMP EFFECT

Republican legislative leaders from Ohio and Wisconsin are working together, hoping other states will join them, as they prepare for changes in how the federal government under President Donald Trump deals with states.

KASICH CLEARED TO GIVE STATE OF THE STATE SPEECH IN SANDUSKY

Ohio lawmakers have signed off on the governor's plan to deliver his annual State of the State speech in Sandusky.

OHIO TASK FORCE FINDS MIXED PROGRESS ON COLLEGE COST-CUTTING

The group said too few schools have identified how resources will improve college affordability and education quality.

The Columbus Dispatch

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Trump-era challenges bring Ohio, Wisconsin leaders together

Republican legislative leaders from Ohio and Wisconsin came together Thursday for what they hope will be an ongoing collaborative effort to prepare for when the Trump administration begins handing states more authority.

PLAN WOULD CUT PENALTY FOR MISSING FRONT PLATE

Ohio lawmakers took a small step toward reducing the penalty for missing front license plates and exempted natural gas fleets from taxation in changes Thursday to the proposed state transportation budget.

LT. GOV. TAYLOR CREATES GUBERNATORIAL CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE

It comes as no surprise, but Mary Taylor now is a formal candidate in the crowded field for the Republican nomination for governor in 2018.

KASICH SUMMONED TO HELP CRAFT MEDICAID SOLUTION AMID OBAMACARE REPEAL

Ohio Gov. John Kasich is among a small group of governors being called upon by congressional Republicans to help craft a solution to the Medicaid expansion conundrum amid the repeal and replacement of Obamacare.

Dayton Daily News

www.daytendallynews.com

NEW RULES SET FOR MEDICAL MARIJUANA USE IN OHIO

Ohio is taking steps to make sure medical marijuana isn't pitched in a way that is attractive to kids by banning cartoon characters, candy look-alikes and fruit shapes and requiring child-resistant packaging.

OHIO STEP CLOSER TO RAISING LICENSE PLATE, DRIVER'S LICENSE FEES

The Ohio House is scheduled to vote on a transportation budget bill Tuesday that includes increases in fees paid for vehicle plates and driver's licenses.

Lt. Gov. Mary Taylor signals she's running for governor in 2018

Republican Mary Taylor signaled on Thursday that she wants the top job when she filed paperwork for a new campaign committee titled: "Mary Taylor for Governor."

THE PLAIN DEALER

MARY TAYLOR FOR GOVERNOR LAUNCHES

In the surest sign yet that she will run for governor in 2018, Lt. Gov. Mary Taylor has formed a committee that allows her to begin campaigning and raising money for what stands to be a tough Republican primary.

OHIO CITIES COULD STOP PAYING PREVAILING WAGE TO CONSTRUCTION WORKERS UNDER PROPOSED BILL

Local governments could opt out of paying Ohio's prevailing wage on public construction projects under a new proposal from state Sen. Matt Huffman.

SEAN SPICER HEADLINING D.C. FUNDRAISER FOR OHIO SEN. FRANK LAROSE

White House Press Secretary Sean Spicer is headlining a Washington, D.C. fundraiser for Ohio Sen. Frank LaRose next week, according to a flier for the event.

PROPOSED LIMITS FOR MEDICAL MARIJUANA SUPPLY IN OHIO AMONG STRICTEST

Proposed limits on how much medical marijuana Ohio patients could buy and possess would be among the strictest the country.

2018 Ohio Governor's race gets more 'official' with Mary Taylor: Ohio Politics Roundup

Taylor takes the plunge: Ohio Lt. Gov. Mary Taylor on Thursday filed paperwork forming a gubernatorial campaign committee, and a website, www.marytaylorforgovernor.com, cleveland.com's Henry J. Gomez writes.

THE ENQUIRER

SCHOOL SUBSTITUTE WAS NOT CERTIFIED, AUDITOR SAYS

The state auditor is "alarmed" after two local school districts hired a substitute who was not certified.

PARKED VEHICLES WOULDN'T BE CITED FOR MISSING FRONT PLATE

Those who want to eliminate Ohio's front license plate gained an inch Thursday.

GOP EFFORT COULD AX PREVAILING WAGE RULE FOR CONSTRUCTION

WORKERS

Ohio's cities, townships and counties could decide to pay construction workers less than the state-mandated prevailing wage under a new GOP proposal – one that a union leader says abandons the blue-collar mandate from the election of President Donald Trump.

THE BLADE

LT. GOV. TAYLOR ANNOUNCES BID FOR GOVERNOR

Lt. Gov. Mary Taylor, who has the support of current boss Gov. John Kasich, formed a committee Thursday for her own run for governor in 2018.

BUDGET PROVISION WOULD CUT VEHICLE FEES IN COUNTY

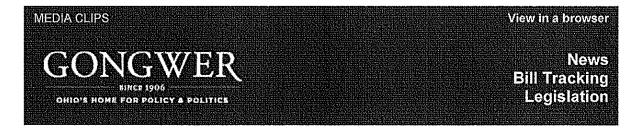
A portion of registration fees imposed on commercial vehicles would be cut in Lucas and three other counties, as part of an experiment to see if more trucks register in Ohio as a result, under a proposal headed for a House of Representatives vote next week.

From: Gongwer News Service

Sent: Friday, February 24, 2017 5:31 AM

To: Alexander, Steven

Subject: Ohio Media Clips, Friday, February 24



NEWS

GOP effort could ax prevailing wage for workers (Cincinnati Enquirer, 2/24/2017)

Hundreds gather to protest Mitch McConnell and Donald Trump (Cincinnati Enquirer, 2/24/2017)

2018 Ohio governor's race gets more 'official' with Mary Taylor: Ohio Politics Roundup (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 2/24/2017)

Halt Ohio's ESSA plan until state testing is cut, 150 angry educators, officials tell state (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 2/24/2017)

Indivisible town hall attendees take on the absent Rob Portman at Cleveland church (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 2/24/2017)

Ohio cities could stop paying prevailing wage to construction workers under proposed bill (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 2/24/2017)

Proposed limits for medical marijuana supply in Ohio among strictest (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 2/24/2017)

Sean Spicer headlining D.C. fundraiser for Ohio Sen. Frank LaRose (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 2/24/2017)

Buckeye, Cheesehead leaders team up to tackle Trump-era challenges (Columbus Dispatch, 2/24/2017)

GOP leaders oppose teacher 'externship' plan (Columbus Dispatch, 2/24/2017)

Kasich summoned to help craft Medicaid solution amid Obamacare repeal (Columbus Dispatch, 2/24/2017)

Mary Taylor now formally governor candidate (Columbus Dispatch, 2/24/2017)

Natural gas tax kicked from budget (Columbus Dispatch, 2/24/2017)

Trump's transgender policy won't change how most local schools operate (Columbus Dispatch, 2/24/2017)

Who really stopped Dems from attending Portman speech? (Columbus Dispatch, 2/24/2017)

Bills would streamline prescription process for Ohio patients (Dayton Daily News, 2/24/2017)

John Boehner: Repealing Obamacare just 'happy talk' (Dayton Daily News, 2/24/2017)

New rules set for medical marijuana use in Ohio (Dayton Daily News, 2/24/2017)

Gun silencer bills could spark sales (Toledo Blade, 2/24/2017)

Report finds \$1B in savings in higher ed (Toledo Blade, 2/24/2017)

EDITORIALS

SOUDDONNAMINAUTUUUUUUHHIN AUTUUUUUHHIN AUTUUUHHIN AUTUUHHIN AUTUUHHIN AUTUUHHIN AUTUUHHIN AUTUUHHIN AUTUUHHIN

Deportation force, as pledged (Akron Beacon Journal, 2/24/2017)

Editorial: Talking is better than dodging (Columbus Dispatch, 2/24/2017)

Portman under wraps (Toledo Blade, 2/24/2017)

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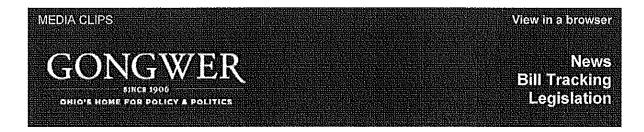
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From: Gongwer News Service

Sent: Monday, February 27, 2017 5:31 AM

To: Alexander, Steven

Subject: Ohio Media Clips, Monday, February 27



NEWS

Kasich cleared to give State of the State speech in Sandusky (Akron Beacon Journal, 2/27/2017)

Ohio bill outlawing marital rape gets no GOP support, again (Akron Beacon Journal, 2/27/2017)

After bitter feud, Kasich and Trump try to mend fences (Cincinnati Enquirer, 2/27/2017)

Kasich budget assumes Cincinnati could raise more taxes (Cincinnati Enquirer, 2/27/2017)

Kasich to GOP: Full Obamacare repeal 'not acceptable' (Cincinnati Enquirer, 2/27/2017)

Portman denies keeping Democrats out of political event (Cincinnati Enquirer, 2/27/2017)

Gov. John Kasich and Rep. Jim Jordan duel on TV over Obamacare repeal (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 2/27/2017)

Gov. John Kasich talks with President Trump about reforming Obamacare (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 2/27/2017)

Ohio congress members seek investigation of Jewish community center bomb threats (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 2/27/2017)

Tom Gunlock, former state school board president, leaves board (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 2/27/2017)

Capitol Insider: Kasich can relate to Trump's kerfuffles (Columbus Dispatch, 2/27/2017)

Grass-roots foes of Trump, GOP make noise in Ohio (Columbus Dispatch, 2/27/2017)

Kasich says town hall protests might be getting through to Capitol Hill (Columbus Dispatch, 2/27/2017)

Kasich, GOP at odds over Medicaid coverage (Columbus Dispatch, 2/27/2017)

Ohio may pay counties to take inmates off its hands (Columbus Dispatch, 2/27/2017)

Trump has many believers in small-town Ohio (Columbus Dispatch, 2/27/2017)

Kasich fights for federal health care funds (Dayton Daily News, 2/27/2017)

Local governments told to 'open books' (Toledo Blade, 2/27/2017)

Ohio officers tasked with keeping race, gender data (Toledo Blade, 2/27/2017)

EDITORIALS

A better death penalty for Ohio (Akron Beacon Journal, 2/27/2017)

Bickering over Gov. Kasich's traveling State of the State passes for political discourse in Ohio: Thomas Suddes (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 2/27/2017)

Keep defending Ohio Medicaid expansion, Gov. Kasich: editorial (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 2/27/2017)

Editorial: Victims seek more court leverage (Columbus Dispatch, 2/27/2017)

Governor got this right (Toledo Blade, 2/27/2017)

Right-to-work law still totally wrong for Ohio (Youngstown Vindicator, 2/27/2017)

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From: Ohio House Republican Communications

Sent: Monday, March 6, 2017 1:56 PM

Subject: GOP Week in Review 2/27/17 – 3/5/17



GOP Week in Review

2/27/17 - 3/5/17

The Lima News: McColley helps pass state transportation budget

McColley also chairs the House Finance Subcommittee on Transportation, which played a key role in crafting the bill. "House Bill 26 strikes a balance between financing Ohio's transportation priorities while being a responsible watchdog of taxpayer dollars," he said. "A lot of creative ideas and input went into the crafting of this budget, and I am confident that it will help Ohio meet its infrastructure needs in the future."

Gallipolis Daily Tribune: Ohio House passes transportation budget

"This infrastructure package is an important step to rebuild our communities," said House Finance Chair Ryan Smith (R-Bidwell). "The transportation budget makes an investment of \$7.8 billion that will maintain our roads and improve our economic competitiveness."

<u>Cincinnati Business Courier</u>: Cincinnati could reap big benefits from Ohio transportation bill

"We all know there's not enough money to do everything we need to do," said Rep. Doug Green, R-Mount Orab, chairman of the House's transportation committee.

Toledo Blade: Ohio House approves \$7.8B for transportation

"This is a declining revenue source," said Rep. Robert McColley (R., Napoleon), the bill's sponsor. "Ohioans are paying less gas tax now than they have in years past. It's actually getting below the \$8 billion mark."

Circleville Herald: Rep. Scherer Votes for State Transportation Budget

= 3I am pleased with the passage and to be a co-sponsor of the transportation budget," said Scherer. "This passage allows for us to put funding back into our state's infrastructure and continue growth all across the state of Ohio."

The Morning Journal: Ohio lawmaker's highway bill aims to reach suffering veterans

State Rep. Steve Hambley says it could help remind veterans suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder to reach out for help.

The Morning Journal: Ohio House approves bill on protective orders for dating violence

Rep. Emelia Strong Sykes, an Akron Democrat, and Rep. Nathan Manning, a North Ridgeville Republican, are sponsoring the bill.

<u>Youngstown Vindicator: Pharmacists could offer much cheaper version of EpiPen if</u> Ohio bill becomes law

The Blade reports the bill introduced last week by state Rep. Derek Merrin would allow substitution only with the patient's permission. Doctors still can insist on the brandname EpiPen. Merrin, a Republican, says he sees the bill as a national model, "free-market solution" to the Mylan pricing issue.

The Morning Journal: Ohio Rep. Wes Retherford reintroduces bill aimed at curbing elder abuse

State Rep. Wes Retherford= 2s Elder Justice Act unanimously cleared the Ohio House last year. ... Retherford, a Hamilton Republican, said changes have been made to the bill to address the issues raised.

Dayton Daily News: Butler County lawmaker re-introduces elder abuse bill Retherford said he and now former Ohio Rep. Mike Dovilla, R-Berea, moved in 2014 to

put a \$10 million appropriation for Adult Protective Services in the Mid-Biennium Review bill in anticipation of the Elder Justice Act "because that was the number one concern we heard back.= 4

<u>Cincinnati Enquirer: Guest column from Rep. John Becker: New right-to-work bill restores workers' rights</u>

It's about freedom. I authored Ohio House Bill 53 to restore the freedom of association to public-sector employees. This right-to-work legislation provides public-sector workers the freedom to opt out of union representation and dues. A private sector right to work bill will soon be introduced by one of my colleagues in the Ohio House of Representatives.

Mount Vernon News: Goodwill opens in Fredericktown

Rick Carfagna, State Representative of House District 68, was there to give the store an official welcome from the Ohio House of Representatives.

The Findlay Courier: Editorial: SNAP fraud

Two lawmakers, Rep. Tim Schaffer, R-Lancaster, and Sen. Matt Huffman, R-Lima, have proposed legislation that would add photos to food stamp EBT cards in an effort to

reduce "trafficking," in which recipients swap SNAP benefits for money. The bills are worth consideration.

Van Wert Independent: State legislators meet with SWCD staff

State Representative Craig Riedel and State Senator Cliff Hite met this past week with representatives of the Van Wert County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) at the recent annual "Conservation Partnership Meeting" held in downtown Columbus.

<u>The Morrow County Sentinel: Mount Gilead High School seniors engage education experts in discussion</u>

Ohio House Representative from District 87, Wesley A. Goodman also discussed state and national perspectives on education with the students.

<u>Record Herald: Guest column from Speaker Cliff Rosenberger: Coming together to celebrate Ohio history</u>

It is no secret that I am a history enthusiast, especially when it comes to the stories of our state and nation. This week marked Ohio's 214th birthday, 214 years since its official induction into the United States.

Circleville Herald: Rep. Scherer honors essay winner

"I was honored to be able to recognize Kalila for her tremendous work in this competition and I was pleased to be able to discuss her passion for the issues she addressed in her writing piece," Scherer said.

Sentinel-Tribune: Gavarone appointed to House Finance Committee

"I am honored by the speaker's decision to appoint me to House Finance Committee," Gavarone said. "I am excited to work with Chairman Smith and the other members of the Finance Committee as we move towards delivering a budget that benefits all citizens of Ohio."

Salem News: State Representative honors Wilson as state champion

"It was an absolute privilege to honor Jared with a resolution today," Ginter said. "Jared is a tremendously talented golfer, but also a very dedicated student for which he should be commended. I believe that Jared has a very bright future ahead."

Record Herald: Peterson discusses tax policy with municipal leaders

"It's important that we, as members of the House and Senate continue to meet with the representatives of our local municipalities, especially during the budget season," said Representative Anielski. "Hearing their concerns allows us to craft a better, more responsive budget for the state of Ohio that works well on every level of governance."

WCMH: Ohio lawmakers hold first hearing on 'Judy's Law'

"The judge and the prosecutor did their job the best they could under current law," Hughes said. "It's now time for us in the legislature to do our job to ensure that victims like Judy receive the justice they deserve."

WSPD: Ohio lawmakers want harsher penalties for distracted driving

"Law enforcement at that time would determine that distracted driving was the cause of the primary or contributing factor. The law enforcement officer could then charge an additional charge on with that which would be a minor misdemeanor," Hughes says. From: Investopedia.com

Sent: Wednesday, July 26, 2017 3:06 AM

To: Alexander, Steven

Subject: Term of the Day: Tender Offer

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TERM OF THE DAY

Tender Offer

A tender offer is an offer to purchase some or all of shareholders' shares in a corporation. The price offered is usually at a premium to the market price.

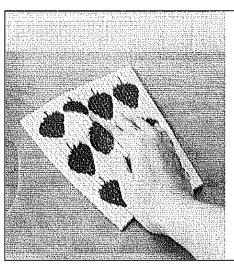
Securities and Exchange Commission laws require any corporation or individual acquiring 5% of a company to disclose information to the SEC, the target company and the exchange.

Breaking it Down:

A tender offer is when an investor proposes buying shares from every shareholder of a publicly traded company for a certain... **Read More**

Related to "Tender Offer"

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= A	3 Benefits of a Successful Tender Offer: Cliffs Natural (CLF)
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Schedule TO-I

This schedule is known as an "issuer tender offer statement." It must be filed by certain reporting companies that make tender offers for their own securities – a "self-tender." Read More

Competitive Tender

An auction process through which large institutional investors (also called primary distributors) purchase newly issued government debt. Read More

Debt Tender Offer

When a firm retires all or a portion of its debt securities by making an offer to its debtholders to repurchase a predetermined number of bonds at a specified price and during a set period of time. Read More

Short Tender

An investing practice that involves using borrowed stock to respond to an offer made during an attempted acquisition of some or all of a shareholders' shares.

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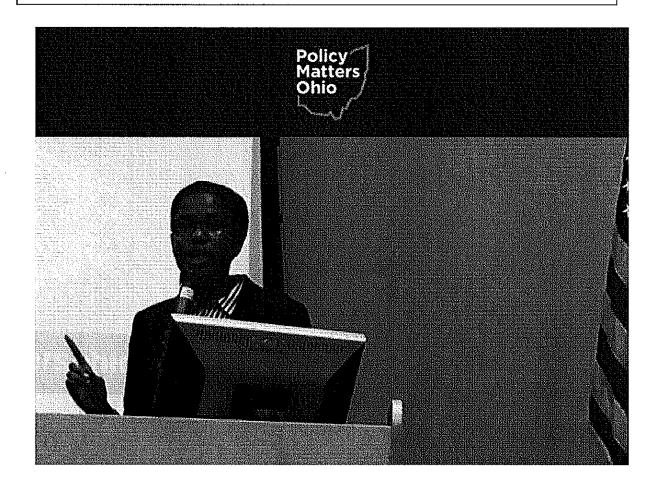
Sent: Saturday, October 28, 2017 9:01 AM

To: Alexander, Steven

Subject: News from Policy Matters: Deforming the tax code

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The latest news from Policy Matters

Tax (de)form moves forward: President Trump and Congressional Republicans are selling us a bill of goods – claiming their plan to overhaul the tax code will spur economic growth and help the middle class. But their plan skews heavily to the wealthy and corporations and paves the way for the slashing of important programs like food aid, Pell Grants and Medicaid. And deductions you might depend on, like the State and Local Income Tax (SALT) are at risk. That's not reforming the tax code, that's deforming it. Our Wendy Patton explained how the plan would hurt most everyday Ohioans. The process isn't over yet, Republicans say they want their \$1.5 trillion tax cut passed by December. There's still time to call or email your members of Congress and voice your displeasure.

Eye on Columbus: With so much happening in Washington, D.C. it can be easy to forget that lawmakers in Columbus are also making decisions that affect our lives — and some not for the better. But Research Director Zach Schiller never forgets, and he's been carefully scrutinizing bills that would further benefit the wealthy at the expense of the rest of us. This week Zach submitted testimony about residency requirements that allow "Florida snowbirds" to avoid paying income tax. He called on legislators to change the law so that anyone living in Ohio 183 days or more pays income tax. Zach also testified against a bill that would expand the "passthrough tax loophole" that costs Ohio \$1 billion a year without spurring job creation. Finally, Zach continues to bang the drum on unemployment compensation reform — pushing for a bill that works for workers.

Budget Bites: Over the last two weeks we took a hard look at Ohio's 2018-2019 budget. We applauded lawmakers for the concerted and coordinated efforts they made to steer more resources to stem the drug crisis. They increased funding for the department of mental health and addiction services by 16.4 percent and funding for children's services by 36.8 percent. Other protective services for adults and seniors didn't fare as well. Alternatives to incarceration received more funding in the state budget: Community-based correctional services that include drug treatment and rehabilitation went up by 10 percent. But Medicaid, one of Ohio's most important tools in providing access to treatment for people struggling with addiction, faces several threats, such as a potential freeze on enrollment for

Medicaid expansion, work requirements and new premiums for enrollees. Part of the problem with Ohio= 2s response to the drug crisis is that it doesn't provide much new revenue to address it. Instead it diverts money from other sources such as the Local Government Fund. <u>Local Governments</u> also lose out in this budget due to changes in the state tax base, as do <u>public transit agencies</u>. Together, they will lose nearly \$200 million a year after the budget period ends.

Out and about: Executive Director Amy Hanauer faced off against "So Called Right to Work" supporters at the Ohio Economic Development Forum. She also moderated a panel on race and class at the Economic Analysis and Research Network Conference in Arizona. Wendy joined others for a panel on the state's response to the drug epidemic at a forum hosted by Ohio District 15 Indivisible. Victoria Jackson (pictured above) gave the keynote address at Eastern Ohio Education Partnership's 2017 Excellence in Education Awards.

Coming up: On November 3, Amy will join other experts for a City Club discussion of former Cleveland Mayor Carl B. Stokes' policy legacy. <u>Be sure to register.</u> Researchers Victoria Jackson and Michael Shields will be featured speakers at the 2nd Annual Ohio Urban Resources System Conference on November 2 and 3 in Columbus. <u>Register here.</u>

VIEW ONLINE

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From: report@hannah.com

Sent: Wednesday, November 1, 2017 7:14 PM

To: DL Hannah

Subject: Hannah News Stories for Wednesday, November 1, 2017

Wednesday, November 1, 2017

IN TODAY'S HANNAH REPORT:

Please click here to read the entire Hannah Report.

Today's Stories

- House Releases Documents on Harassment Complaints against Three Lawmakers
- Kasich Praises Unions, Says 歹 ORight to Work' Non-Issue
- House Sees Lengthy Floor Debate over Latest Abortion Bill, Anti-Fraud SNAP Legislation
- Redistricting Panel Hears Further Testimony Bashing Gerrymandering
- Bill Barring Workers' Compensation to Illegal Aliens Gets First Hearing
- Automakers Talk Rollout Timelines, Policy Needs in Driverless Car Hearing
- House Committee Discusses Merits of Piping Materials Bill
- Statehouse Rally Urges Action on Legislation to Reform Payday Loans in Ohio
- New Ohio State Policy Center to Study 'War on Drugs'
- Ohio Earns Solid 'C' in New Report on Pre-Trial Justice
- Ohio Attorney General Opinion Request
- Judicial Actions: Opinions; Appeals Accepted
- Executive Actions: Appointments

House Committee Reports

- Aging and Long Term Care
- Community and Family Advancement
- Criminal Justice
- Federalism and Interstate Relations
- Government Accountability and Oversight
- Health
- Higher Education and Workforce Development
- Insurance
- State and Local Government
- Transportation and Public Safety

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<u>FinancialInstitutionsHousing&UrbanDevelopmentCommittee@ohiohouse.gov</u> at least 24 hours prior to committee.



ANNOUNCEMENT OF COMMITTEE MEETING

COMMITTEE:

Financial Institutions, Housing, and Urban Development

CHAIR:

Jonathan Dever

DATE:

Tuesday, December 5, 2017

TIME: ROOM:

9:00 AM Room 114

AGENDA

BILL	<u>SPONSOR</u>	TITLE	<u>STATUS</u>
H. B. No. 386	Rep. Henne, Rep. Kelly	Modify credit reporting agency fees for a credit report freeze	2nd Hearing Proponent
H. B. No. 390	Rep. Merrin	Clarify computation of timelines for forcible entry and detainer	2nd Hearing Proponent
H. B. No. 353	Rep. Reineke	Exempt loop credit and reward cards from Unclaimed Funds Law	4th Hearing Poss. Vote Prop/Opp/IP

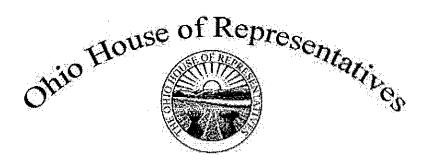
The Chair respectfully requests an electronic copy of oral and/or written testimony and all amendments to FinancialInstitutionsHousing&UrbanDevelopmentCommittee@ohiohouse.gov at least 24 hours prior to committee.

From: Financial Institutions Housing & Urban Development Committee

Sent: Thursday, December 7, 2017 10:50 AM

To: Hucke, Justin

Subject: FIHUD Committee Announcement - 12.12.2017 **Attachments:** Witness Information form.docx; notice.pdf



ANNOUNCEMENT OF COMMITTEE MEETING

COMMITTEE:

Financial Institutions, Housing, and Urban Development

CHAIR:

Jonathan Dever

DATE:

Tuesday, December 12, 2017

TIME:

9:00 AM

ROOM:

Room 114

AGENDA

BILL	SPONSOR	TITLE	<u>STATUS</u>
H. B. No. 386	Rep. Henne, Rep. Kelly	Modify credit reporting agency fees for a credit report freeze	3rd Hearing Prop/Opp/IP
H. B. No. 390	Rep. Merrin	Clarify computation of timelines for forcible entry and detainer	3rd Hearing Opponent
H. B. No. 182	Rep. Seitz	Address debt adjusting	4th Hearing Poss. Vote Poss. Sub. Bill Prop/Opp/IP

H. B. No. Rep. Reineke 353

Exempt loop credit and reward 5th Hearing cards from Unclaimed Funds Law

Poss. Vote Poss. Sub. Bill Prop/Opp/IP

The Chair respectfully requests an electronic copy of oral and/or written testimony and all amendments to FinancialInstitutionsHousing&UrbanDevelopmentCommittee@ohiohouse.gov at least 24 hours prior to committee.

WITNESS INFORMATION FORM

Please complete the Witness Information Form before testifying:

Date.		
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Position/Title:		
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Do you wish to be added to the No	committee notice email d	listribution list? Yes
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Please provide a brief statement on your position:

Please be advised that this form and any materials (written or otherwise) submitted or presented to this committee are records that may be requested by the public and may be published online.



ANNOUNCEMENT OF COMMITTEE MEETING

COMMITTEE:

Financial Institutions, Housing, and Urban Development

AGENDA

CHAIR:

Jonathan Dever

DATE:

Tuesday, December 12, 2017

TIME: ROOM:

9:00 AM Room 114

BILL	SPONSOR	TITLE	<u>STATUS</u>
H. B. No. 386	Rep. Henne, Rep. Kelly	Modify credit reporting agency fees for a credit report freeze	3rd Hearing Prop/Opp/IP
H. B. No. 390	Rep. Merrin	Clarify computation of timelines for forcible entry and detainer	3rd Hearing Opponent
H. B. No. 182	Rep. Seitz	Address debt adjusting	4th Hearing Poss. Vote Poss. Sub. Bill Prop/Opp/IP
H. B. No. 353	Rep. Reineke	Exempt loop credit and reward cards from Unclaimed Funds Law	5th Hearing Poss. Vote

The Chair respectfully requests an electronic copy of oral and/or written testimony and all amendments to requests-sanctions-bousing&UrbanDevelopmentCommittee@ohiohouse.gov at least 24 hours prior to committee.

Poss. Sub. Bill Prop/Opp/IP From: Policy Matters Ohio

Sent: Monday, January 25, 2016 2:24 PM

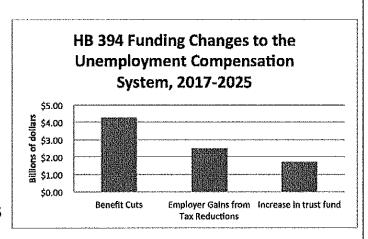
To: Alexander, Steven

Subject: Our latest e-news: Hashtags, hiring and more



A roundup of happenings at Policy Matters Ohio.....

#Nation'sWorst - Research
Director Zach Schiller exposed an
egregious assault on
unemployment compensation that
would make Ohio's system one of
the worst in the country in many
ways, slashing benefits, hacking
eligibility, and cutting employer
taxes. Zach's and researcher
Hannah Halbert's dogged
reporting on House Bill 394 - the
worst anti-worker bill since the SB5
attack on collective bargaining -



sparked statewide news coverage. Major daily newspapers <u>editorialized against the bill</u>, some more than once. Our allies at Advocates for Ohio's Future and in the labor movement testified and issued phenomenal action alerts. Opponents created a hashtag #StartOver394. The backlash slowed the bill, and led lawmakers to make several amendments. But this will be a train wreck if Ohio families don't derail it.

Hurting a good thing - Senior project director Wendy Patton's recent report found that provisions in the Ohio budget <u>would reverse progress</u> under Medicaid expansion. Expanding Medicaid has delivered health insurance to more than 650,000 Ohioans, saved money, and brought federal dollars into the state. But lawmakers are seeking a waiver from the federal government that would impose premiums and penalties on patients. This will end up causing tens of thousands to lose health-care coverage, as studies have

repeatedly found. "This will work against the good health results Ohio has seen with Medicaid expansion," Patton said.

Weatherize it - Since Ohio froze clean-energy and efficiency standards in 2014, electric utility investment in low-income home weatherization has declined by 26 percent. That's the upshot of <u>a recent report</u> written by Policy Matters' Amanda Woodrum, in collaboration with NextGen Climate America and Ohio Partners for Affordable Energy. Weatherization reduces the need for struggling families to seek utility payment assistance and creates jobs in Ohio's energy economy. If Ohio weatherized 30,000 homes of customers in payment-assistance programs each year for 13 years, we'd create nearly 2,400 jobs and produce roughly \$1.77 billion in savings for Ohio families.

Jobs crawling back - Job growth in Ohio continues to lag the national rate, but the last few months have brought solid gains. The state added 15,200 jobs in December, the third straight month of strong growth, our workforce researcher Hannah Halbert reports in the latest JobWatch. The late-year rally followed very slow growth in 2015. But it will take many more quarters of good results to get Ohio firmly on track. We have added jobs at a rate slower than the nation's since the start of the 2007 recession. U.S. jobs have grown by 3.5 percent since then, while the Ohio rate stands at 0.6 percent.

Zombie power plants - The Public Utilities Commission of Ohio is considering forcing FirstEnergy ratepayers to subsidize two outdated, inefficient power plants that can't produce energy at competitive rates. Researcher Michael Shields <u>described the misguided arrangement</u> to keep the two plants in business - the coal-fired W.H. Sammis plant on the Ohio River and the Davis-Besse nuclear plant near Toledo. "It's a mistake to make First Energy customers pay for this inefficient bailout deal," Michael wrote.

Join our crew: Policy Matters is hiring an <u>outreach coordinator</u> now in Cleveland and recruiting people with a master's degree to take part in an amazing <u>state policy</u> <u>fellowship</u> where you could be placed in our Cleveland or Columbus office starting next fall. The fellowship application deadline is Feb. 8. Check 'em out!

Keep clicking! - We love our social media pals. Keep growing the movement by <u>liking</u> us on Facebook and following us on Twitter.

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From: Smith, Kristen

Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2016 5:15 AM

Subject: E-Clips for 2/2/2016

House E-Clips **02/02/16**



LABOR-BACKED GROUP REMINDS OHIOANS OF UNION LAW'S DEFEAT

A labor-backed group that helped defeat collective bargaining restrictions in Ohio says it's using the five-year anniversary of the union law to remind supporters to stay active and engaged in its efforts.

OHIO SUPREME COURT HEARS INJURY LAWSUIT OVER POLICE CHASE

The Ohio Supreme Court will hear arguments in the case of a woman who sued police over injuries she suffered after a high-speed chase ended with a burglary suspect colliding with her car.

OHIO PROSECUTOR SEEKS NEW LAW ON POLICE USE-OF-FORCE PROBES

A county prosecutor in Cleveland wants the Ohio Legislature to amend state laws to allow the Ohio attorney general to present deadly police use-of-force cases to grand juries.

OHIO COURT APPROVES CLASS ACTION IN SPEED CAMERA CASE

A state appeals court approved class action status on Monday for thousands of motorists fined for speeding in a southwest Ohio village with citations issued from automatic camera enforcement.

LEGAL COSTS INVOLVING CONVICTED OHIO JUDGE COULD REACH \$1.7M

The cost of court cases brought for and against a juvenile court judge in southwest Ohio who was convicted of a felony charge after a legal battle over her election as judge could reach nearly \$1.7 million.

The Columbus Dispatch Ohio's Greatest Online Newspaper

WITH FOCUS NOW ON NEW HAMPSHIRE, FOR KASICH IT'S DO OR DIE

Ohio Gov. John Kasich knows his presidential campaign won't survive a poor showing in next week's New Hampshire primary, and his schedule reflects it.

GROVE CITY SENDS 'PUPPY MILL' BILL BACK FOR MORE WORK

The sponsor of legislation that would have banned the sale of "puppy mill" animals in Grove City withdrew the proposal Monday night, vowing to come up with "a clean ordinance."

OHIO'S HIGHER PRESCHOOL SPENDING STILL LAGS MOST STATES

Ohio's spending on public preschool programs increased this year, like most states.

KASICH TO MAKE HEAVY PUSH IN NEW HAMPSHIRE AHEAD OF PRIMARY

It's do or die for Ohio Gov. John Kasich's presidential campaign over the next week in New Hampshire, and his schedule reflects it.

OHIO POLITICS NOW: A LOOK AT IOWA AND BEYOND TO NEW HAMPSHIRE

Now that people are finally going to start voting (or caucusing as the case is in Iowa today) we get a look at how much the presidential candidates have to get their word out to voters.

OHIO POLITICS NOW: 'THE REAL RACE BEGINS IN NEW HAMPSHIRE' KASICH CAMPAIGN SAYS

A couple of surprises from the lowa caucuses could affect how Ohio Gov. John Kasich fares in the New Hampshire primary one week from today.

KASICH GETS MOST OF HIS CAMPAIGN CASH FROM OHIO

Ohio Gov. John Kasich may not be leading most other presidential candidates in fundraising, but he can take some comfort in the fact that he's doing far better than any of them in the state that twice elected him governor.

MARY TAYLOR COMMITTEE RAISED \$146,500 LAST YEAR

Onward Ohio, the nonprofit political organization formed by Republican Lt. Gov. Mary Taylor to elevate her visibility ahead of a potential run for governor in 2018, raised six-figures in a few months.

Dayton Daily News

www.daytondallynews.com

KASICH DONORS INCLUDE SCHWARZENEGGER

Former California Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger was among the \$2,700 donors to Republican Gov. John Kasich's presidential campaign committee, records filed with the Federal Election Commission Sunday show.

THE PLAIN DEALER

JOHN KASICH'S TEAM ON IOWA CAUCUS FINISH: 'THE REAL RACE BEGINS IN NEW HAMPSHIRE'

Ohio Gov. John Kasich had no expectations for the lowa caucuses.

IOWA IN THE BOOKS, NEW HAMPSHIRE IS NEXT, AND JOHN KASICH IS ALREADY LOOKING TO SOUTH CAROLINA: OHIO POLITICS ROUNDUP

Iowa is done. New Hampshire is next. John Kasich smacks down his super PAC.

Presidential candidates join John Kasich on New Hampshire

CAMPAIGN TRAIL: WHAT TO WATCH FOR TUESDAY

With the Iowa caucuses over, many presidential candidates will spend Tuesday in New Hampshire, including Republicans Jeb Bush, Chris Christie, Ted Cruz, Marco Rubio, and Donald Trump, as well as Democrats Hillary Clinton, Bernie Sanders.

REPUBLICAN LOBBYING FIRM OPENS CLEVELAND OFFICE, HIRES TOP CUYAHOGA GOP OFFICIAL

A Republican lobbying firm with Cleveland roots is expanding its presence here by opening a Playhouse Square office and hiring Cuyahoga County's top GOP official.

THE ENQUIRER

<u>Iowa caucus surprises may hurt John Kasich's New Hampshire</u> primary effort

John Kasich gained only about 2 percentage points in the Iowa caucus Monday night, but so did his top rivals, boosting his campaign's hope for a strong showing in New Hampshire.

TWO GOPERS FEUD OVER LIQUOR CABINET

GOP challenger Courtney Combs says Rep. Wes Retherford treated the statehouse like a frat house, but the incumbent argues that one drink cabinet in his office wasn't improper.

IN NH, KASICH ADS LEAD TO ANGST

John Kasich says his rivals should follow his lead and call on the super PACs supporting them to take down negative advertisements.

THE BLADE

KASICH DIGS IN FOR FINAL STRETCH IN N.H.

Gov. John Kasich has started his final week in New Hampshire, banking on a breakout performance for his presidential aspirations.

CVS TO SELL OVERDOSE ANTIDOTE TO ANYONE

Christa Lammers told a packed audience of politicians, local law enforcement, health-care workers, and substance abuse officials Monday that her brother Jeffrie Shirey, 37, was a heroin addict.

CantonRep.com

OHIO HIGH COURT PACKS DRILLING RIGHTS IN YEARS-LONG CASE

A years-long battle over oil and gas leases ended last month when the Ohio Supreme Court upheld contract language that underpins drilling rights on thousands of properties across the state.

ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER HELPS KASICH CAMPAIGN WITH MAX DONATION

Republican Gov. John Kasich's presidential campaign committee and the independentorganization supporting him spent \$11.4 million during the final three months of last year as part of his effort to finish among the top three contenders in next week's New Hampshire primary.

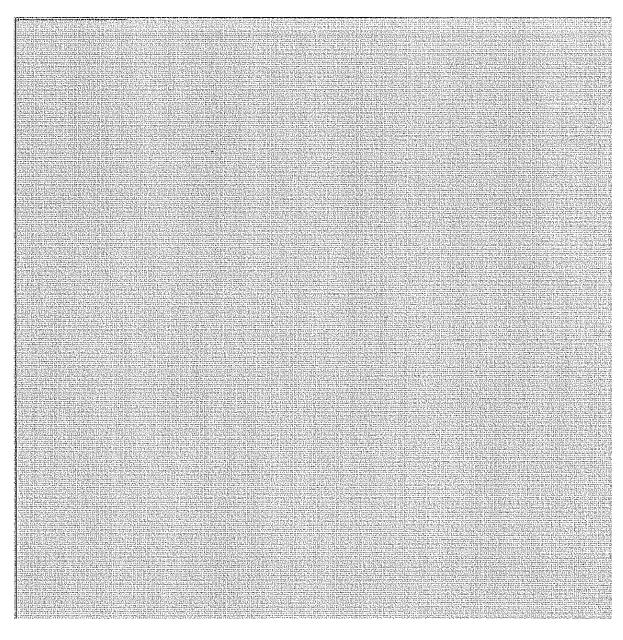
EDITORIAL: STATE LEGISLATOR BELITTLES OPPONENT

The photo caught our eye, not only because we thought it was cute, but also because it showed the dedication state Rep. Christina Hagan, R-Marlboro Township, has for her job.

From: Watchdog.org
Sent: Saturday, February 13, 2016 5:57 AM
To: Alexander, Steven

Subject: Bill saves taxpayers \$5 billion





Senate report finds 'pay and chase' Obamacare tax credit failure

A new Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee report shows the Affordable Care Act paid out an estimated \$750 million in tax credits before verifying the citizenship or legal residency of recipients.

Trending Articles

Education

Budget raises red flags for school choice

Pennsylvania Governor Tom
Wolf denies that he is against
charter schools or school
choice, but critics say his
latest proposed budget "aims
to shut down brick-and-mortar
charter schools and put an
end to school choice across
Pennsylvania."

Healthcare

Flashback: Gov. Kasich's Medicaid expansion end-run

Ohio Gov. John Kasich went around the state legislature to expand Medicaid under Obamacare in 2013, but that's not the story he's telling voters on the campaign trail. Here's how the policy fight played out in 2013.

Budget and spending

\$274 million incentive package took 5 hours from soup to nuts

It took all of five hours for the Mississippi Legislature last week to receive, consider and approve a measure providing \$274 million in taxpayer-funded debt and related tax breaks. For those keeping score at home, that's \$54.8 million per hour.

City paid employee on leave \$212,000, and gave him a raise

An assistant Denver city attorney has apparently been on administrative leave for more than year, collecting as much as \$212,000 while staying at home and even receiving a favorable performance review and pay bump.

Read more

Five years later, Act 10 saves taxpayers \$5 billion, study finds Remember Act 10 - that controversial bill to reform public-sector collective bargaining passed by Wisconsin Gov. Scott Walker back in 2011? A new study finds it has saved taxpayers about a billion dollars a year.

First Amendment

= 9

Whistleblower says he's getting pressure from unhappy Dems

Whistleblower Ryan Honl says he is "feeling the Bern" from a union and the Democrats it backs after he exposed congressional inaction in the Tomah Veterans Affairs

Medical Center scandal.

From: Maxwell, Dan

Sent: Thursday, February 18, 2016 12:28 PM

To: House All

Subject: Request for Co-Sponsorship – Paid Parental Leave

Ohio House of Representatives

MEMORANDUM

TO:

All House Members

FROM:

Representative Christie Kuhns and Representative Janine Boyd

DATE:

February 18, 2016

RE:

Request for Co-Sponsorship - Paid Parental Leave

We will soon introduce legislation to create the Family and Medical Leave Insurance Program. Beginning in 2020, the program will provide 12 weeks of family and medical leave benefits, which will permit individuals to care for a family member, bond with a new child, or address their own serious health condition.

Out of 178 countries worldwide, the United States is one of three that does not provide paid leave to new mothers. Only two states, California and New Jersey, offer paid leave to men and women who provide care. The federal Family Medical Leave Act provides 12 weeks of leave for family and medical reasons. This time is unpaid and employers with fewer than 50 employees are exempt, which eliminates a large segment of workers. Ohio should lead on the issue of paid leave to grow our economy and allow working people to put family first.

The program will be under the purview of the Department of Job and Family Services. An individual would receive leave insurance benefits for: a health condition which makes him/her unable to perform their job duties; caring for a new child during after birth, adoption, or foster care placement; caring for a child, parent, or spouse who has a serious health condition; or the individual is taking any other leave as authorized by the federal Family and Medical Leave Act. In order to be eligible for program benefits, an individual must file a claim with ODJFS; must have worked at least 680 hours during the base period; premiums

have been withheld and remitted for at least one year; and the leave must be for the abovementioned purposes.

Once established, program benefits will be paid by assessing premiums on employees. Employers will be required to deduct and withhold premiums from employee's wages. However, an employer may opt to pay the contributions on behalf of employees.

An employee who is covered by an employer policy or collective bargaining agreement that provides the employee with greater leave than that provided by the Family and Medical Leave Act may elect not to participate in the Program in accordance with rules adopted by the Director. An employee who elects to opt out of participating in the Program is not liable for any premium or contribution that would otherwise be due under the Program.

Working people in Ohio should not have to worry about losing their job or falling behind financially just to take care of a sick child or relative; address their own serious health condition; or care for and bond with their newborn child. Ohio cities like Dayton and Cincinnati are leading on leave. By allowing working people to put their family first, we can truly make Ohio a better place to live, work, and raise a family.

If you have any questions or would like to co-sponsor this legislation, please contact Dan Maxwell, at 466-1645 or via email at <u>Dan.maxwell@ohiohouse.gov</u>. The deadline to co-sponsor is Monday February 29th at 5:00pm.

From: Maxwell, Dan

Sent: Thursday, February 18, 2016 12:56 PM

To: House All

Subject: Request for Co-Sponsorship – Paid Family and Medical Leave



MEMORANDUM

TO: All House Members

FROM: Representative Christie Kuhns and Representative Janine Boyd

DATE: February 18, 2016

RE: Request for Co-Sponsorship – Paid Family and Medical Leave

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From: Policy Matters Ohio

Sent: Tuesday, March 29, 2016 1:27 PM

To: Alexander, Steven

Subject: SCOTUS: Fair Share is Fair



Fair Share is Fair

Supreme Court votes to uphold fair share fees

View online

Fair share is fair.

That was the finding of an equally divided U.S. Supreme Court, which today issued a onesentence decision that upheld nearly 40 years of legal precedent and the right of public sector workers to collectively bargain.

No worker can be forced to join a union even though the benefits of a union contract extend to all the workers in the bargaining unit. Those workers who do not want to be full members pay a fair share fee. This ensures that such covered employees who receive all of the benefits of union membership pay some of the costs. Fair share covers the administrative costs of bargaining and administering the contract. Fair share fees do not include costs of political activities. In the *Friedrichs* case decided today, a small group of California teachers objected to paying their fair share and the court has rejected their challenge.

"Fair share is about basic fairness," said Zach Schiller, research director with Policy Matters Ohio. "This decision buoys the rights of working people and promotes stability in the public-workplace."

Hannah Halbert, workforce researcher with Policy Matters Ohio, added that "Ohio voters overwhelmingly defeated Senate Bill 5, legislation that would have stripped many public sector workers of their right to collectively bargain. Working people need more opportunities to have their voice heard on the job, not less."

Today's 4-4 decision upholds the finding of the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals and it sets no new collective bargaining restrictions for the rest of the country.

Read more about the decision on the <u>SCOTUS blog</u>. Learn more about the impact of unions on Ohio's labor market in our <u>State of Working Ohio report</u>.

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Policy Matters Ohio is a nonprofit, nonpartisan state policy research institute with offices in Cleveland and Columbus.

<u>Hannah Halbert</u> is a workforce researcher with Policy Matters Ohio.

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From: Gongwer News Service

Sent: Monday, April 11, 2016 3:11 PM

To: Alexander, Steven

Subject: Ohio Report, Monday, April 11, 2016

Attachments: Apr11.htm; Apr11House.htm; 160411dayplan.htm



Ohio Report for Monday, April 11, 2016

House, Senate Chairs Set Criminal Justice Legislative Priorities For Coming Months

Sunset Review Process About Half Completed; Committee Expected To Wrap Up Work In May

OCMC Subcommittee To Present Congressional Redistricting Proposal Thursday

Bill Would Create Registry Of Parkinson's Patients To Aid In Research, Treatment

Graduates, ODE Tout First-Year Results Of Adult Diploma Program

AEP Names New Ohio COO; EDF Praises Kasich Administration For New Leak Detection Measure For Oil And Gas Facilities...

High Court To Hear Public Records Case Next Week; Oral Arguments Set In Five Other Cases

National Report: Ohio's Affordable Housing Lags Behind Needs Of Low Income Renters

Education Notes: 44 Applicants Seeking Superintendent Job; AG Says College, University Foundations Can Be Audited

Agency Briefs: Elevated Lead Levels Found In Statehouse Drinking Fountain; ODNR Awards Marine Patrol Grants; OEPA; Civil Rights...

Politics Notebook: Strickland Proposes Five Debates, Portman Campaign Aims To Contact 50K Voters; Buckeye Institute Slams Capital Bill; Planned Parenthood And Ohio Right To Life To Hit Statehouse...

Supplemental Agency Calendar

Supplemental Event Planner

Activity Reports

House

Calendars

Day Planner

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Volume #85, Report #69 -- Monday, April 11, 2016 House, Senate Chairs Set Criminal Justice Legislative Priorities For Coming Months

The legislator who leads the Senate Criminal Justice Committee said his goal for the group over the next several months is to avoid interfering with the work of the Criminal Recodification Committee.

Chairman Sen. John Eklund (R-Chardon) said in an interview he does not want to move legislation before lawmakers break for the summer that could be at odds with recommendations from the committee charged with reviewing the state's criminal codes.

"I want to avoid doing anything that is going to be disruptive of the work that the Recodification Committee is doing," he said.

However, Sen. Eklund, a member of the ad hoc panel, also said his standing committee is "not going to be paralyzed."

One of his legislative priorities, he said, is a bipartisan bill (HB 164) sponsored by Rep. John Rodgers (D-Mentor-on-the-Lake) and Rep. Dorothy Pelanda (R-Marysville).

The measure, which already cleared the House, allows non-violent ex-offenders to have their records sealed if they have complied with all court ordered sanctions. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, February 24, 2016)

"That strikes me as a positive initiative," Sen. Eklund said.

Although acknowledging that the legislation may be too complex to move through the committee before the General Assembly's summer recess, Sen. Eklund said another bill he is very interested in is one that would end the death penalty for those that suffer from certain severe mental illnesses at the time of their crimes.

Sponsored by Sen. Bill Seitz (R-Cincinnati) and Sen. Sandra Williams (D-Cleveland), the bill (SB 162) is facing opposition from the Ohio Prosecuting Attorneys Association. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, January 27, 2016)

"It's a big bill. It's an important bill. I don't know that it's something that we can get done that quickly," Sen. Eklund said, adding that discussions with OPAA are ongoing.

Another measure he hopes to get to the Senate floor that he does not feel would conflict with the work of the Recodification Committee is a bill (HB 151) sponsored by Rep. Marlene Anielski (R-Independence) designed to combat cyber stalking. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, October 7, 2015)

On the House side, Chairman Rep. Jim Butler (R-Oakwood), who said he has been in close contact with members of the Recodification Committee, has several legislation priorities he desires to move through the House Judiciary Committee in the coming months. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, March 29, 2016)

One is a bill (SB 76) sponsored by Sen. Kevin Bacon (R-Minerva Park) and Sen. Gayle Manning (R-N. Ridgeville) that specifies the actual servicing of a protective order or consent agreement to the targeted individual isn't necessary for a violation charge if the person knew of the order and "recklessly violated" its terms. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, September 30, 2015)

The measure was introduced after the Ohio Supreme Court overturned the conviction of a man because he had not been officially served with a protective order by an officer of the court.

"There some disagreement between the House and Senate on this issue, but I'm optimistic we can come up with a compromise on this bill," Rep. Butler said.

Another priority, according to Rep. Butler is a bill (SB 215) sponsored by Sen. Jim Hughes (R-Columbus) and Sen. Frank LaRose (R-Copley Twp.) that would provide civil immunity to those who break into cars to rescue animals or children. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, February 10, 2016)

"In general I think the concept is a correct one," Rep. Butler said.

He said he also expects to take up a measure (HB 307) sponsored by Rep. Pelanda designed to provide judges with more discretion in imposing driver's license suspensions for drug-related offenses that did not involve a vehicle. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, October 13, 2015)

Also likely to be a priority for the committee, according to Rep. Butler, is a bill (HB 283
) to require DNA testing for certain misdemeanor sex crimes and another bill (HB 268
) designed to make it easier for victims of human trafficking to expunge their records.

"I do hope we'll be able to pass those out of committee," Rep. Butler said.

Sunset Review Process About Half Completed; Committee Expected To Wrap Up Work In May

About halfway through the Sunset Review process, dozens of entities have said their services are no longer needed.

"We already have a decent number," said Sen. Kris Jordan (R-Ostrander), who chairs the Sunset Review Committee.

In fact, a total of 40 entities have asked to be sunset, including the Labor-Management Government Advisory Council, the Ohio Parks and Recreation Council and the Ohio Housing Study Committee.

Sen. Jordan said he expects more entities will ask to be discontinued as the process moves forward. The panel's next meeting is 3:30 p.m. Tuesday.

"There will be more," he said. "Every time we have hearings, there are a number of agencies and boards that ask to be sunset."

Not only does Sen. Jordan anticipate more entities to ask to be sunset, he also expects the committee to make some cuts of its own.

"There are a few members of the committee that are looking at additional boards and commissions to be addressed," he said, adding additional hearings would likely be necessary in that case to allow the entities to justify their continued existence.

When all is said and done, Sen. Jordan said, he does not expect the process to result in substantial savings for taxpayers. He does, however, hope the committee's work will improve the business climate across the state.

"Hopefully beyond saving some money, it will get government out of the way of different businesses and entrepreneurs," he said.

Sen. Jordan, though, would like to go farther.

"I would probably like to see more get cut than will actually get cut. But it's a committee process," he said. "There may be some on the other side that think we are going a little bit too far."

Sen. Jordan said he expects the committee to wrap up its work in May and issue a report some time thereafter.

"I'm not sure if we are actually going to get the bill passed until later in the year," he said.

Once a bill is introduced, Sen. Jordan said he hopes for it to garner widespread support.

"It depends on how far we go," he said. "I would like to get a bill that most people can agree to."

The review process occurs every six years. Nearly 80 boards, commissions and study panels were eliminated through legislation (SB171, 129th General Assembly) enacted at the end of the last Sunset Review process.

OCMC Subcommittee To Present Congressional Redistricting Proposal Thursday

Members of an Ohio Constitutional Modernization Commission subcommittee plan to have an updated congressional redistricting proposal formed in time for committee discussion Thursday.

The OCMC's Legislative Branch and Executive Branch Committee is scheduled to meet at 2:30 p.m. Thursday - the first meeting since a four-member subcommittee began working in February to reach a compromise agreement on revamping the redistricting process in the spirit of Issue 1.

The full committee initially intended to vote on the measure at its February meeting before several last minute amendments halted the process. Chairman Fred Mills then appointed the subcommittee to come to an agreement on those changes within six weeks. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, February 4, 2016)

Two months later, discussions are ongoing.

But subcommittee member Sen. Charleta B. Tavares (D-Columbus) said in an interview that subcommittee members and staff should have a proposal finalized in time for the committee to discuss it at Thursday's meeting.

"We'll have something to present to the committee on Thursday on where we are," Sen. Tavares said. "We've had discussions with interested parties, with members of the subcommittee, and kind of gone back and forth."

Although the subcommittee has had no informal meetings since its first meeting in March, she said members and staff have continued their discussion over the last month. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, March 9, 2016)

She described the discussions as positive and said she expects the final proposal, which could still be changed by the committee, will honor the spirit of Issue 1, which handed over the legislative mapmaking process to a newly created bipartisan committee.

"We just want to make sure the proposal and our discussion has been focused on how the lines would be drawn and not who is drawing them, which is a good step forward," she said.

Should the subcommittee fail to reach an agreement by Thursday's meeting, members will likely still report to the committee by updating members on its progress.

"The subcommittee will probably present where they are on Thursday and our hopes are we will have something the subcommittee can say is a consensus report because we really want the rules for drawing congressional districts to be specific so it would be difficult for either party to engage in gerrymandering," Sen. Tavares said.

The Thursday unveiling would come just more than a week since Gov. John Kasich's State of the State address, in which the governor doubled down on his call for

lawmakers to embrace change to congressional redistricting. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, April 6, 2016)

"When pure politics is what drives these kinds of decisions the result is polarization and division," the governor said in the speech. "I think we've had enough of it."

Still, Senate President Keith Faber (R-Celina) and House Speaker Cliff Rosenberger (R-Clarksville) have given indications the General Assembly will be sluggish in picking up discussion of the OCMC proposal if it clears the commission.

Sen. Faber said the issue isn't part of his forthcoming agenda, while Rep. Rosenberger called legislative and congressional redistricting are "apples and oranges." (See Gongwer Ohio Report, April 6, 2016)

Bill Would Create Registry Of Parkinson's Patients To Aid In Research, Treatment

A recently introduced bill would make Ohio the fifth state to track data on people who have been diagnosed with Parkinson's disease.

The bill (HB 499), sponsored by Rep. Cheryl Grossman (R-Grove City) and Rep. Kirk Schuring (R-Canton), would authorize the Department of Health to create a registry of patients with Parkinson's and other movement disorders.

Franklin County Auditor Clarence Mingo, who has been diagnosed with Parkinson's disease and helped write the bill, joined Rep. Grossman at a Statehouse news conference Monday, saying that the database is a step toward improving care and research on the condition.

"This data is useful and absolutely necessary not only in the treatment of Parkinson's disease but also in understanding it and thereafter reaching for a cure," Mr. Mingo said.

If the bill passes, Ohio would be the fifth state to create a database of Parkinson's patients, after Utah, California, Nebraska and Washington.

"It will assist us in gathering data that will help researchers in the state and throughout the nation better understand what's happening here in the state of Ohio with that particular disease," Mr. Mingo said. "Understanding that will help us dedicate resources, it will help us identify those who need those resources to the extreme and it will also help us understand, categorially, how it is we should go about finding a cure for Parkinson's disease and otherwise treating it."

About 1 million people have been diagnosed with Parkinson's disease nationwide, Mr. Mingo said, but it's unclear how many people suffer from the condition in Ohio.

"Whether it's 200,000 or 200, we need to know that and understand what's happening here in the state of Ohio with people with Parkinson's disease," he said.

The data would also help shed some light on who the condition affects. Many people who suffer from Parkinson's are elderly, and Mr. Mingo said that means the number of people diagnosed will increase as the population gets older. While the common perception is that it mostly affects, older people, he said it affects many others. Mr. Mingo is 44 and publicly announced his diagnosis in 2013.

The bill would allow ODH to draw up rules regarding exactly how the registry would work. The database would allow ODH to release summary data to show trends and help with research. It's unclear at the moment how much the program would cost.

Mr. Mingo said it would also help patients by helping connect them with others who are going through the same thing.

"When you're initially diagnosed with a condition like this your immediate instinct is to look around within your family, throughout your peers and those you know and try to see who else has this disease and what does it mean for a person's life to walk with it," he said.

Rep. Grossman said the bill is another step toward helping those suffering from Parkinson's and other movement disorders.

"Whatever we can do to help the quality of life for Ohioans in meaningful ways, there should be no hesitancy to be able to achieve that goal," she said.

Graduates, ODE Tout First-Year Results Of Adult Diploma Program

The State Board of Education on Monday recognized graduates of the state's adult diploma program, who were among 78 Ohioans to earn diplomas during the pilot year.

The program, which was created through a previous mid-biennium review budget bill (HB 483, 130th General Assembly), enrolls Ohioans ages 22 and older at community colleges and career technical centers where they can simultaneously work toward a diploma and credentials in an in-demand career field.

Stark State Community College, Pickaway-Ross Joint Vocational School, Miami Valley Career Technical Center, Cuyahoga Community College and Penta Career Center were involved in the pilot program, which began this school year. Three other sites received funding through the state budget and will begin accepting students in July. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, July 13, 2015)

"This is probably one of the most exciting things I've had the opportunity to participate in," said Steve Gratz, Senior Executive Director for Student Support and Education Options for the Department of Education.

"This is a game-changer for people. Not only for those individuals, for their families and their communities and so I am just so pleased," he added, saying he believes the program is the first of its kind in the country to offer a diploma issued by the State Board of Education.

Program graduates also spoke to the board, sharing emotional stories of how their lives have been changed for the better because of the credentials and job training they've received.

The state covers the cost of the program, reimbursing pilot sites as students hit milestones, Mr. Gratz said. Because the program is competency based, students work at their own paces toward diplomas.

Michelle Profit, who attended Miami Valley Career Tech, told the board that she couldn't focus in GED classes or during tests so she was never able to obtain a certificate after dropping out of high school during her sophomore year.

Twenty-six years later, she said her dreams of finishing high school have come true thanks to the state offering an additional pathway for individuals older than 21 who never graduated.

"Not only has if fulfilled my heart's desire but it has also given my family a brighter tomorrow," Ms. Profit said, adding that she earned nursing credentials through the program and now works at a hospital.

The law requires pilot sites to offer general instruction in conjunction with training for indemand jobs that have been identified through OhioMeansJobs and the Governor's Office of Workforce Transformation. To be included on the list, the job must pay at least \$12.54 per hour, which is about \$26,000 per year.

Board members offered support for the graduates, who filled the meeting room and encouraged the administration to continue the program into the next biennium.

"What you've accomplished makes you an inspiration to all of us, especially the more than one million Ohioans who don't have a diploma," Board President Tom Gunlock said.

The state budget included \$5 million in Fiscal Year 2017 to continue the expanded pilot program.

In addition to the Adult Diploma Program, the state has two other options for adults who didn't earn a high school diploma: The GED program and the 22+ program, which is tailored to those who are already employed and are just a few credits short of high school graduation.

AEP Names New Ohio COO; EDF Praises Kasich Administration For New Leak Detection Measure For Oil And Gas Facilities...

AEP has selected Senior Vice President and Treasurer Julie Sloat as the next president and chief operating officer of its Ohio utility unit.

Ms. Sloat will begin her new post May 2, the company announced Monday. She will succeed outgoing President and COO Pablo Vegas, who in March accepted an executive leadership position at Columbia Gas of Ohio parent NiSource. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, March 15, 2016)

AEP Executive Vice President and COO Robert Powers, who will oversee Ms. Sloat in her new role, said her regulatory and financial expertise "will serve us well as we continue our focus on making investments that provide more reliable service, develop renewable power resources and give our Ohio customers tools to control how and when they use electricity."

The company said it expects to soon name a new treasurer to succeed Ms. Sloat.

Ms. Sloat has served as senior vice president and treasurer since January 2013, according to the company, where she oversees the company's treasury, trusts and investments. Between 2009-2013, she was vice president of regulatory case management.

"As important as her business acumen, Julie is able to connect with and develop positive, mutually beneficial relationships with people," Mr. Powers said.

"A native of Bolivar, Ohio, and graduate of the Ohio State University, Julie has strong ties with Ohio companies and community organizations. She knows and loves the Buckeye State and will be focused on how AEP Ohio can best serve our customers and benefit Ohio's economy," he said.

Gas Leaks: The Environmental Defense Fund praised Gov. John Kasich's administration for new plans to reduce air pollution stemming from the oil and gas industry.

Earlier this month, the administration announced it plans to require permits for new and modified equipment at compressor stations, which would require those companies to check for leaks quarterly.

The EDF said those checks will help catch leaking Volatile Organic Compounds and methane, which it said contribute to global warming.

"We applaud Gov. Kasich for, once again, stepping forward to deliver clean air protections that Ohio communities deserve and joining other leading states in regulating harmful methane emissions," EDF President Fred Krupp said in a statement. "Today's announcement underscores that fast-growing recognition that, for natural gas to meet its promise as a lower-carbon fuel, methane emissions can't go unchecked."

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has estimated the natural gas sector could be emitting up to 1.7 million metric tons of methane.

"Requiring operators to systematically check equipment for leaks is a proven, costeffective way to reduce harmful emissions and associated risks to public health and the environment," Senior State Regulatory and Legislative Affairs Manager Andrew Williams said. "We commend the administration for taking this important step and look forward to working with OEPA and other stakeholders to strengthen the proposal."

Ozone Standard: State regulators and interest groups are pushing back on a recent U.S. EPA white paper that they say fails to adequately account for background ozone under a newly lowered federal ozone standard.

Such ozone cannot be controlled by a state because it stems from a natural event, such as a wildfire, or enters the state from another state, according to the Center for Regulatory Solutions.

More than a dozen entities, including state agencies, air quality experts, and business groups have submitted comments protesting what they call "serious flaws" in the paper. They're arguing that the EPA's failure to account for background ozone would "unfairly punish Western states and compromise their ability to comply with the stringent" air quality guidelines adopted last year.

In October, the EPA announced a long-awaited move to lower the federal ozone standard from 75 parts per billion to 70 parts per billion. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, October 1, 2015)

"The agency suggests that the relief mechanisms in the statute are sufficient to address the rare instances where background ozone pushes a state out of compliance," according to the center's comments. "To the contrary, our review reveals that neither assertion is accurate or substantiated by the facts. What is clear, however, is that EPA is trying to regulate something for which the science is still not fully understood."

High Court To Hear Public Records Case Next Week; Oral Arguments Set In Five Other Cases

An attorney representing the Ohio Innocence Project next week will argue that the Ohio Supreme Court should overturn a 1994 ruling and compel the Columbus Division of Police to provide him access to the case file of a man convicted of a 2007 murder.

Cincinnati attorney Donald Caster will argue that the court's ruling in *State ex rel*. *Steckman v. Jackson* should be overturned because of revision to Criminal Rule 16 made in 2010, the court reported.

In *Steckman*, the court ruled that access to law enforcement evidentiary records should be determined by the discovery rules for criminal cases rather than the Ohio Public Records Act.

Mr. Caster will argue that the that 2010 rule change paved the way for the court to overturn the 1994 decision and allow for the examination of investigatory records once a trial begins.

CDP will argue that it is following the law laid out in the Steckman case in denying the records request of Mr. Caster.

According to the court, CDP will claim that many of the records are "specific investigatory work product," which includes personal notes, working papers, memoranda and evidentiary findings, all of which were exempted from public record law in a 1997 case.

The Innocence Network and the Ohio Coalition for Open Government have filed briefs in support of Mr. Caster's case.

The court will hear five other cases next week:

- In Jackson v. State, a death row inmate will appeal his sentence arguing that the judge did not take mitigating factors into account at a resentencing hearing.
- In 250 Shoup Mill v. Tax Commissioner, the court will decide if a non-profit real
 estate company that leases property to a Dayton charter school and is owned by
 a charter-school corporation is eligible for a property tax exemption.
- In Jacobson v. Kaforey, the court will determine if a woman, who as a child was
 assigned a conservator who then sent her to live with an uncle in Florida, can file
 a lawsuit claiming the conservator and a hospital violated the law.
- In Aalim v. State, A juvenile facing aggravated robbery charges in adult court will
 argue that the statute allowing his case to be moved from the juvenile system is
 unconstitutional because the juvenile court judge was not given an opportunity to
 determine if he would be responsive to rehabilitation in the juvenile system.
- In State v. Jones, The court will decide if a Cleveland man convicted of a 1993 more than 20 years later should be subject to sentencing laws at the time of the offense.

The latter two cases, along with the public records case, will be heard on April 20 at Meigs High School in Pomeroy as part of the court's off-site program.

National Report: Ohio's Affordable Housing Lags Behind Needs Of Low Income Renters

A new national analysis of U.S. Census data shows Ohio by and large has just 38 affordable and available housing units for every 100 extremely low income renter households.

But Ohio isn't alone, according to the National Low Income Housing Coalition, which analyzed the data. The Buckeye State joins 49 other states and Washington D.C. in not being able to adequately meet the housing needs of impoverished residents.

The report, called "The Gap: The Affordable Housing Gap Analysis 2016," examines PUMS data - the most detailed level of data from the Census Bureau's American Community Survey. In doing so, the group determined that "clearly a new approach is needed to address the housing needs of households with the lowest incomes."

That's because the United States has 7.2 million too few affordable rental units available to those considered "extremely low income," which is defined as those with an income at or below 30% of the area median income.

Of those ELI renters, 75% were "severely cost-burdened, spending more than half of their income on rent and utilities," according to the study. In all states, at least 55% of ELI renters put more than half their incomes toward rent and utilities, according to the group.

NLIHC Vice President of Research Andrew Aurand said the study "reveals an alarming reality about housing for extremely low income households."

"What is frustrating is the lack of timely action to address the issue," Mr. Aurand said. "Millions of people in America are living in unaffordable rental homes. They are forced to cut their spending on food, transportation and health to pay rent."

In Ohio, there were 274,346 too few units for ELI households. In all, 71% of ELI households demonstrated a severe housing cost burden.

Of Ohio's three largest metropolitan areas, each had a deficit of housing units per 100 households at or below the ELI threshold. But only Columbus had a number of available units below the national level.

Of those metro areas:

- The Columbus area required 55,675 more affordable housing units to adequately serve extremely low income renters
- The Cincinnati area including portions of Kentucky and Indiana had 47,486 too few units for that population
- The Cleveland-Elyria area had 55,579 too few units

Of all states, North Dakota fared the best, but that state still had a shortage with 64 affordable and available units per 100 ELI households. Nevada, in contrast, fared the worst nationally with 17 units per 100 such households.

Sheila Crowley, who recently retired as the group's president and CEO, said more funding to the National Housing Trust Fund would help close the gap.

So would success of the group's ongoing campaign United for Homes, she said, which lobbies for reducing the portion of a mortgage eligible for tax breaks from \$1 million to \$500,000 and changing the deduction to a 15% non-refundable tax credit. She said those moves would save up to \$200 billion in the next decade that could be invested into the trust fund.

"The National Housing Trust Fund was explicitly created to address the most critical housing needs in our country, housing affordable to those with the lowest income," Ms. Crowley said. "We can end homelessness and housing poverty in America without adding a penny to the federal deficit through the United for Homes campaign. All we need is the will."

Education Notes: 44 Applicants Seeking Superintendent Job; AG Says College, University Foundations Can Be Audited

The State Board of Education this week will begin reviewing the qualifications of 44 applicants who are looking to be the next superintendent of public instruction.

Board President Tom Gunlock said the applications will be made public on Wednesday and board members will have until April 28 to pick five candidates that they would like to interview.

Ray & Associates, a contracted search firm, is reviewing the applications that were due Friday and will also select the five interviewees, he said.

The goal is to complete interviews in May and select a superintendent shortly after, the board president said.

"Hopefully somebody will come to the forefront and we can get this done. If not, we may have to call people back for additional interviews, but hopefully we can get this thing done sometime in May," Mr. Gunlock said in an interview.

The chosen candidate, who will be paid \$210,000-\$250,000 annually, will replace former superintendent Dick Ross, who retired in December. Lonny Rivera, who has been serving as interim superintendent, said last year he wasn't interested in applying for the permanent post.

Foundation Audits: State Auditor Dave Yost is clear to continue reviewing the financial records of college and university foundations, per an Attorney General's opinion.

AG Mike DeWine recently issued an opinion stating that the foundations, which raise private funds to support the public institutions, are considered public entities and therefore subject to audits.

"We conclude that a public college or university foundation established as a private nonprofit corporation under R.C. Chapter 1702, the primary purpose of which is to solicit and receive, on behalf of a state college or university, gifts, donations, and bequests made for the benefit or use of the state college or university, and which is responsible for keeping records of donations for the state college or university, is an entity established by the laws of this state for the exercise of a function of government, and is, therefore, a public office," according to the legal opinion.

Yost spokesman Benjamin Marrison said the office requested clarification on foundation audits following push back from the University of Toledo and Youngstown State University. The latter hired legal counsel to debate the auditor's characterization of its foundation as a public entity late last year, Mr. Marrison said.

The opinion ensures that the auditor can examine foundation funds as he sees fit.

"We are pleased, but not surprised, that the attorney general agrees that these funds - collected on behalf of universities to benefit universities - are public dollars and subject to the scrutiny of state auditors," Mr. Yost said.

The office has been contracting with audit firms to examine college and university foundations as part of regular audits for more than 20 years, Mr. Marrison said.

Agency Briefs: Elevated Lead Levels Found In Statehouse Drinking Fountain; ODNR Awards Marine Patrol Grants; OEPA; Civil Rights...

The Capitol Square Review & Advisory Board on Monday tested water in the Statehouse after previous testing found elevated lead levels in a single drinking fountain.

Columbus news station NBC4 collected water samples in the building and testing showed that a fountain on the first floor of the Senate building had a "slightly elevated lead level," according to CSRAB.

To verify the tests, CSRAB completed its own and is expecting results to be available by Friday. All 17 drinking fountains and four kitchenettes in the Statehouse and Senate Building were tested.

The drinking fountain that was identified as having elevated lead levels was taken out of service last Friday when the results of the NBC4 tests were provided to officials, CSRAB said.

Natural Resources: The agency's Division of Watercraft will provide 24 communities with more than \$576 million to support marine patrol units.

"The 2016 Marine Patrol Assistance Grants will help local law enforcement agencies provide emergency response to boating-related incidents, conduct routine waterway patrols and purchase safety equipment for use on marine patrol vessels," according to an ODNR release.

As the number of registered recreational watercraft has increased in recent years, boating-related fatalities have decreased, the agency noted.

In 2015, a record 474,601 watercraft were registered, representing a growth of almost 40,000 in the last three years. Boating related fatalities, meanwhile, have decreased 12% since 1996.

Environmental Protection Agency: A public hearing is set for April 18 to gather input on a wastewater treatment plant expansion in Grove City.

The Ohio EPA said the expansion that discharges to a tributary of Big Darby Creek "would allow Franklin County to retire older wastewater treatment plants and would not accommodate new development."

The agency will take comments on the plans at 6 p.m. at Pleasant View Middle School, 7255 Knopp Road, Grove City. Comments can also be submitted to epa.dswcomments@epa.ohio.gov or EPA-DSW, Attention Permits Processing unit, P.O. Box 1049, Columbus, Ohio 43215-1049

Civil Rights Commission: The commission is requesting nominations for its 2016 class of the Ohio Civil Rights Hall of Fame.

The 8th annual Hall of Fame induction ceremony will recognize Ohioans who have been leaders in human and civil rights issues in the state and have advanced quality and inclusion, according to a commission release.

Nominations are due by July 1 for the ceremony that will be held Oct. 6.

Politics Notebook: Strickland Proposes Five Debates, Portman Campaign Aims To Contact 50K Voters; Buckeye Institute Slams Capital Bill; Planned Parenthood And Ohio Right To Life To Hit Statehouse...

After refusing to debate primary opponent P.G. Sittenfeld, former Gov. Ted Strickland is now calling on Sen. Rob Portman (R-Terrace Park) to accept at least five debates in his bid to oust the first-term incumbent.

In a letter to Sen. Portman, Mr. Strickland writes that he looks "forward to a spirited and vigorous campaign; one in which we outline our positions on key issues affecting the people of Ohio."

"Towards that end, I would like to propose a series of debates designed to highlight our priorities and the genuine policy differences that exist between us," the letter continues.

Mr. Strickland proposes the debates be held across the state, one in each region. He also called for the debates to be held in August, September and October.

"Collectively, we can demonstrate to the people of Ohio that we are committed to an open and fruitful discussion of the issues and in the process help inform the voters of the choice they face with this election," the letter reads.

Portman campaign spokeswoman Michawn Rich said in a statement the campaign looks forward to comparing and contrasting the two candidates' records.

"This comes as a welcome surprise given that after a year of refusing to debate, Ted Strickland and his 'invisible' campaign had a change of heart and are now committed to an 'open and fruitful discussion of the issues," Ms. Rich said. "As Ted Strickland and his campaign are well aware, we are already receiving debate requests and we look forward to finalizing details with his staff."

Sen. Portman's campaign meanwhile announced a goal of contacting 50,000 voters on April 23 through an effort it has dubbed "Super Saturday."

During a previous "Super Saturday" in October, more than 600 volunteers contacted upwards of 41,000 voters in one day, according to the campaign.

"We are building the most advanced grassroots organization in Ohio history and we are excited about working with thousands of volunteers that know Ohio can't afford to go back to Ted Strickland's Ohio," Ms. Rich said.

"While Ted Strickland runs his 'invisible' campaign, we are proud to work with our impressive team of volunteers and interns who have helped us contact more than 1.5 million voters since last May," he continued. "Ohio voters will have a clear choice in November between moving forward with Rob's pro-growth policies for better wages and more jobs, or returning to Ted Strickland's failed policies of higher taxes, more regulations, and bigger government."

Capital Bill: Ahead of the release of the capital bill (See Gongwer Ohio Report, April 8, 2016), the Buckeye Institute is slamming the \$150 million likely to be set aside for local projects.

"At a time where critical infrastructure needs are emerging across the state, spending state dollars on items that should be paid for locally is not an optimal use of scarce resources," Greg Lawson, the organization's Statehouse liaison and policy analyst, said in a statement. "Ohio policymakers should focus on what is really needed to help the state prosper while letting local taxpayers make local decisions."

In a report issued, the organization lists what it believes to be the "five most ridiculous capital budget requests of 2016." They include:

- \$10.6 million for a "Triumph of Flight" statute at I-70 and I-75 in Dayton
- \$2 million to renovate an exhibit at the Cleveland Rock and Roll Hall of Fame

- \$1.5 million to refurbish parts of Mapfre Stadium in Columbus
- \$150,000 for the Madcap Productions theater and exhibit hall
- \$50,000-\$100,000 for the Bowling Green Curling Club ice rink

Abortion: Both sides of the abortion debate will converge on the Statehouse this week.

Ohio Right to Life will hold a Legislative Day on Tuesday at the Statehouse in which antiabortion advocates will lobby for the "Down Syndrome Non-Discrimination Act."

Planned Parenthood Advocates of Ohio on Wednesday will hold Freedom of Choice Ohio's Annual Advocacy Day, beginning at Trinity Episcopal Church and moving to the Statehouse.

"Ohio, like many states, has seen an increase in barriers to women's access to vital and high quality health care services," the group stated. "This coordinated effort is part of a larger strategy that is being used nationwide to eventually remove access to safe and legal abortion."

Black Lung Measure: Rep. Jack Cera (D-Bellaire) on Monday touted the introduction of a bill (HB 510) designed to help protect coal miners who are diagnosed with black lung.

"Dealing with black lung disease is a tough reality for many of Ohio's coal miners who work some of our hardest and most dangerous jobs," he said in a statement. "Providing a fair opportunity for benefits as they deal with this debilitating disease is important for the miners and their families. I hope that my colleagues in the legislature will agree."

The legislation would create a workers' compensation process similar to that in West Virginia for coal miners with black lung.

"A miner who lives in Ohio but worked in West Virginia can currently receive at least partial benefits through West Virginia, but a miner who lives and works in Ohio has a more difficult time being approved for benefits," Rep. Cera said. "This bill with help provide a miner who has contracted black lung to have a better chance of receiving at least some benefit to help them through this difficult time."

Kasich Schedule: Gov. John Kasich has four campaign events scheduled this week in New York ahead of the state's presidential primary next week.

Gov. Kasich held two town hall events on Monday, including one hosted by Fox News' Sean Hannity, along with a press availability.

On Tuesday, the governor is set to deliver a speech in New York City on the "Two Paths" facing the American electorate in 2016.

GOP Dinner: The Ohio Republican Party's 2016 state dinner will feature radio talk show host Hugh Hewitt as the keynote speaker.

The June 4 event will also feature Sen. Portman.

Equal Pay: Democrats on Tuesday will hold a press conference in Akron to coincide with Equal Pay Day.

The event, which will feature Ohio Democratic Party Chairman David Pepper and Summit County Clerk of Courts Sandra Kurt, will highlight the gender pay disparity, which Democrats says amounts to about \$10,597 between men and women who work full time in the state.

Supplemental Agency Calendar

Tuesday, April 12

State Board of Education, 25 S. Front St., Columbus, 8 a.m.

Thursday, April 14

Criminal Justice Recodification Committee, House Finance Hearing Rm., Statehouse, Columbus, 1 p.m.

Supplemental Event Planner

Tuesday, April 12

Legislative leaders news conference on capital bill, Harding Senate Press Rm., Statehouse, Columbus, 9:30 a.m.

House Democrats news conference on bill to restrict local hiring options, PLAs (SB152), George Washington Williams Rm., Statehouse, Columbus, 10:30 a.m.

State leaders news conference on efforts to boost fight against prescription drug abuse,

CompDrug Inc., 1420 Fields Ave., Columbus, 11:30 a.m. Wednesday, April 13

Immunization Advocacy Day at the Ohio Statehouse

Ohio Library Council Legislative Day, Statehouse, Columbus, (The Toledo-Lucas County Public Library's Mobile Technology Lab will be parked and available for tours on the Third Street side of the Senate Bldg, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.)

Freedom of Choice Ohio's Annual Advocacy Day, Trinity Episcopal Church, 125 E. Broad St. & Statehouse, Columbus, 9:30 a.m.

Ohio Library Council news conference on ROI report, Ladies Gallery, Statehouse, Columbus, 11 a.m.

Wednesday, May 11

Sen. Capri Cafaro (D-Hubbard) fundraiser, Due Amici, 67 E. Gay Street, Columbus, 5 p.m., (Host - \$1000; Sponsor - \$750; Friend - \$500 to Friends of Senator Cafaro)

Saturday, June 4

Ohio Republican Party 2016 State Dinner, Hyatt Regency Ballroom, 350 N. High St., Columbus, 5 p.m., (See https://www.ohiogop.org/statedinner/ for more information)
Tuesday, June 7

Ohio Senate Democratic Caucus fundraiser, Huntington Park, 330 Huntington Park Ln., Columbus, 6 p.m., (Private Reception

at 6 PM - Game starts at 7:05 PM; Contribution Levels: Host - \$1,500; Sponsor - \$1,000; Friend - \$750 to Ohio Senate Democrats)

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House Activity for Monday, April 11, 2016 CALENDAR FOR COMING SESSION

- SB 133 AWARENESS MONTH (Beagle, B.) To designate June as "Scleroderma Awareness Month."
- <u>HB 57</u>

 MURDER SENTENCING (<u>Maag, R.</u>) To change the sentence for aggravated murder.
- HB 165 HUNTING (Green, D.) To allow an individual on active military duty, while on leave or furlough, to hunt deer or wild turkey without procuring a deer or wild turkey permit.
- COURT JURISDICTION (Craig, H., Grossman, C.) To specify the jurisdiction of municipal and county courts over municipal traffic ordinances and to establish requirements governing fines, fees, or other charges for traffic violations and infractions imposed by a municipal corporation that does not have the authority to establish a mayor's court.
- SCR 2 DIABETES RESEARCH (Balderson, T., Gentile, L.) To urge the United States Congress to increase federal funding for research and development involving advanced medical technology used in the treatment of type 1 diabetes.

SENATE PRESIDENT'S APPOINTMENTS

State Government: Remove Representative LaTourette; appoint Representative Young

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Daily Activity Planner for Tuesday, April 12

Legislative Committees

House State Government (Committee Record) (Chr. Maag, R., 644-6023), Rm. 116, 8:30 a.m.

- SB 152 CONTRACTOR LABOR (<u>Uecker</u>, <u>J.</u>) To prohibit a public authority from requiring a contractor to employ a certain percentage of individuals from the geographic area of the public authority for the construction or professional design of a public improvement. (5th Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote)
- SB 239 DAY DESIGNATION (<u>Hughes</u>, <u>J.</u>) To designate August 7 as Ohio Purple Heart Day. (2nd Hearing-All testimony-Possible vote)
- TRANSPORTATION LAWS (Young, R., Sweeney, M.) To require the Public Utilities Commission to raise the existing statutorily designated towing and storage fees annually by the percentage increase in the consumer price index, to establish a \$35 fee for the retrieval of nonmedical personal items from a motor vehicle, to modify the civil penalties applicable to violations of the towing law, to modify the calculation of the value of an abandoned vehicle to which a towing service or storage facility seeks to take title, and to make other changes to the towing law. (4th Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments)
- HB 449 DAY DESIGNATION (Romanchuk, M., Amstutz, R.) To designate February 3 as "Charles Follis Day." (1st Hearing-Sponsor)
- HCR 32 EDUCATION ACT (McColley, R.) To urge the United States Congress to pass the ADA Education and Reform Act of 2015. (2nd Hearing-Proponent) House Local Government (Committee Record) (Chr. Anielski, M., 644-6041), Rm. 018, 9 a.m.
- ANNEXATION (Henne, M., Butler, J.) To provide that, beginning five years after a type-II annexation is approved, the annexed territory is subject to a fire, police, or EMS tax levy only if the levy is imposed by the subdivision that provides the fire, police, or EMS service to the territory. (3rd Hearing-Opponent)
- EXECUTIVE SESSION (Brinkman, T.) To add to the purposes for which a board of township trustees may go into executive session, to permit a township to charge for recycling services, to reduce the population threshold for a township to adopt a limited home rule form of government, to authorize a township to purchase, lease, or provide underwater rescue and recovery equipment for fire and rescue purposes, to authorize boards of township trustees to pay for group life insurance for any employee, to make other

changes to the township laws, to allow taxing units to use the proceeds of a fire, police, or emergency services tax levy to pay costs related to the service for which the tax is levied, and to expand the public infrastructure improvements townships, municipal corporations, and counties may pay for using money from their public improvement tax increment equivalent funds. (4th Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote)

- BOARDING SCHOOL ZONE (<u>Patterson, J., Roegner, K.</u>) To authorize a municipal corporation or township to establish a boarding school zone and a special speed limit within that zone. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)
- POLICE DISTRICT (<u>Hagan, C.</u>, <u>Sprague, R.</u>) To establish a joint police district, to modify the membership of a joint police district governing body, to expand the offense of solicitation to also apply to a person who agrees with another to engage with the other person in sexual activity for hire, to provide that the "prescription exemption" from the drug possession offenses does not apply to a person who uses more of the drug than the maximum prescribed amount per day or the maximum amount to be used within the prescription timeline or who administers or takes the drug in a manner not prescribed by the prescribing health professional, and to provide immunity from civil liability to a peace officer who administers naloxone to a person who is apparently experiencing an opioid-related overdose. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)

Senate Financial Institutions (Committee Record) (Chr. Hughes, J., 466-5981), Finance Hearing Rm., 9 a.m.

- <u>HB 303</u> **DEED PROGRAM** (<u>Dever, J., McColley, R.</u>) To create the D.O.L.L.A.R. Deed Program. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)
- HB 229 TRUST LAW (Hambley, S., Bishoff, H.) To create the Ohio Family Trust Company Act. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)
- SB 175 TRUST COMPANY LAW (Eklund, J.) To create the Ohio Family Trust Company Act. (4th Hearing-All testimony)
- <u>SB 226</u> **DEBT ADJUSTING** (<u>Seitz, B.</u>) Regarding debt adjusting. (4th Hearing-All testimony)

House Rules & Reference (Committee Record) (Chr. Amstutz, R., 466-1474), Rm. 119, 10 a.m.

Senate State & Local Government (Committee Record) (Chr. Uecker, J., 466-8082), Finance Hearing Rm., 10 a.m.

- SB 257 REAL PROPERTY (Seitz, B., Skindell, M.) To create a presumption of validity of recorded real property instruments, reduce the time period for curing certain defects related to those instruments, and provide constructive notice for those instruments. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)
- LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION (Sweeney, M.) Regarding the term of a General Assembly member as a member of the Legislative Service Commission. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

SB 275 PHOTO MONITORING (Patton, T.) To prohibit a local authority from deriving more than 30 per cent of the total annual revenue of the local authority from the issuance of tickets for traffic law violations based on evidence recorded by traffic law photo-monitoring devices. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

HCR 26 MILITARY BRATPIN (Sears, B., Dovilla, M.) To express support for the Military BratPin. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

<u>HB 87</u> DAY DESIGNATION (<u>Slesnick, S.</u>) To designate October 7 as Moses Fleetwood Walker Day. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

STATE ROCK SONG (Grossman, C., Stinziano, M.) To designate "Hang on Sloopy," which includes the following lyrics, as the official state rock song: Hang on Sloopy, Sloopy hang on; Sloopy lives in a very bad part of town; All the girls I know they try to put my Sloopy down; Sloopy, I don't care what your daddy do; Don't you know little girl, I'm in love with you; Sloopy, let your hair down, let it down on me; Come on Sloopy let your hair down, Girl it down on me. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

Senate Insurance (Committee Record) (Chr. Hottinger, J., 466-5838), South Hearing Rm., 10:30 a.m.

SB 27 FIREFIGHTER CANCER (Patton, T.) To provide that a firefighter who is disabled as a result of specified types of cancer is presumed for purposes of the laws governing workers' compensation and the Ohio Police and Fire Pension Fund to have incurred the cancer while performing official duties as a firefighter. (5th Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote)

HB 95

DENTAL SERVICES (<u>DeVitis</u>, <u>T</u>.) To prohibit a health insurer from establishing a fee schedule for dental providers that are not covered by any contract or participating provider agreement between the health insurer and the dental provider. (3rd Hearing-Opponent)

WORKERS COMPENSATION (<u>Henne, M., McColley, R.</u>) To allow a state fund employer to have a workers' compensation claim that is likely to be subrogated by a third party paid from the surplus fund account in the state insurance fund rather than charged to the employer's experience (3rd Hearing-Opponent)

House Session (Chr. Rosenberger, C., 466-3357), House Chamber, 11 a.m. Senate Rules & Reference (Committee Record) (Chr. Faber, K., 466-7584), Majority Conf. Rm., 11 a.m.

Senate Agriculture (Committee Record) (Chr. Hite, C., 466-8150), North Hearing Rm., 11:15 a.m.

WINE SALES (Manning, N.) To establish the F-10 liquor permit to authorize certain A-2 permit holders to sell Ohio wines at farmers markets. (1st Hearing-Sponsor-Possible amendments)

WINERY PERMITS (Young, R.) To create the Ohio Farm Winery Permit. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

ALCOHOL POSSESSION (<u>Duffey, M., Stinziano, M.</u>) To allow a person to possess beer or intoxicating liquor on the premises of a market if the beer or intoxicating liquor has been purchased from a D liquor permit holder that is located in the market. (3rd Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments)

HB 60

COMPANION ANIMAL ABUSE (Hall, D., Patmon, B.) To revise provisions

and penalties regarding treatment of companion animals, to revise the definition of "companion animal" in the Offenses Relating to Domestic Animals Law, and to provide a state collaborative effort to assist veterinarians in identifying clients who may use their animals to secure opioids for abuse. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)

House Finance (Committee Record) (Chr. Smith, R., 466-1366), Rm. 313, 1 p.m.

SB 264 TAX HOLIDAY (Bacon, K.) To provide for a three-day sales tax "holiday" in August 2016 during which sales of back-to-school clothing and school supplies are exempt from sales and use taxes. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

DATA OHIO BOARD (Hagan, C., Duffey, M.) To create the DataOhio Board, to specify requirements for posting public records online, to require the Auditor of State to adopt rules regarding a uniform accounting system for public offices, to establish an online catalog of public data at data.Ohio.gov, to establish the Local Government Information Exchange Grant Program, and to make an appropriation. (2nd Hearing-Proponent-Possible amendments)

FINANCIAL LITERACY (<u>Terhar, L.</u>) To require the Chancellor of Higher Education to create the SmartOhio Financial Literacy Pilot Program at the University of Cincinnati to operate for the 2016-2017 school year and to make an appropriation. (3rd Hearing-All testimony-Possible vote)

HB 483 DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES (<u>Amstutz, R.</u>) To modify programs administered by the Department of Developmental Disabilities and to make an appropriation. (1st Hearing-Sponsor-Pending referral)

House Government Accountability & Oversight (Committee Record) (Chr. Brown, T., 466-8104), Rm. 114, 1:30 p.m.

COSMETOLOGY LAW (Roegner, K., Reece, A.) To make changes to the Cosmetology Licensing Law. (5th Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments, substitute & vote)

HB 183 STUDENT TRUSTEES (Antani, N., Stinziano, M.) To grant student members of the boards of trustees of state universities and the Northeast Ohio Medical University voting power and the authority to attend executive sessions. (3rd Hearing-All testimony-Possible substitute)

ALCOHOL SAMPLES (<u>Blessing</u>, <u>L.</u>) To allow certain D liquor permit holders to provide free tasting samples of beer, wine, and spirituous liquor to a person who is 21 years old or older and a paying customer of the permit holder. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)

Senate Session (Chr. Faber, K., 466-4900), Senate Chamber, 1:30 p.m.

House Commerce & Labor (Committee Record) (Chr. Young, R., 644-6074), Rm. 122, 2 p.m. or after session

CRIMINAL RECORDS (Barnes, J.) To enact the Fair and Accurate Reporting of Criminal Records Law, to require certain business entities that publish criminal record information to ensure that the information is complete and accurate, to provide a procedure by which a subject of published criminal record information may have incomplete or inaccurate information corrected or removed from the publication, and to provide remedies for the failure of a business entity to remove or correct incomplete or inaccurate information. (4th Hearing-All testimony-Possible substitute)

Senate Finance (Committee Record) (Chr. Oelslager, S., 466-0626), Finance Hearing Rm., 2:30 p.m. or after session

 1st Hearing-Sponsor-Pending introduction & referral of capital appropriations bill.

House Ways & Means (Committee Record) (Chr. McClain, J., 644-6265), Rm. 121, 3 p.m.

<u>HB 404</u>	SALES TAX REFUNDS (Schaffer, T.) To allow vendors to deduct or apply
	for a refund of sales tax remitted for bad debts on private label credit cards
	used to make purchases from the vendor. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

- **SB 172 BULLION TAXES** (<u>Jordan, K.</u>) To exempt from sales and use taxes the sale or use of investment metal bullion and coins. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)
- <u>HB 466</u> TAX EXEMPTION (<u>Smith, R.</u>) To specifically exempt digital advertising services from sales and use tax. (1st Hearing-Sponsor & proponent)
- HB 150
 HOTEL INTERMEDIARIES (Grossman, C., Scherer, G.) To require hotel intermediaries to collect and remit applicable sales and use tax on the full amount paid for hotel lodging, to require hotel intermediaries to supply customers with itemized invoices, to specify that a hotel intermediary is presumed to have "substantial nexus" with Ohio if the intermediary arranges lodging at Ohio hotels, and to specify that hotels are not liable for the failure of a hotel intermediary to properly collect or remit applicable taxes. (3rd Hearing-All testimony)

House Judiciary (Committee Record) (Chr. Butler, J., 644-6008), Rm. 116, 3:30 p.m.

- HB 432 ESTATE LAW (Rezabek, J.) To revise the law governing decedent's estates by making changes in the Ohio Trust Code, the Probate Law, the Uniform Principal and Income Act, the Transfers to Minors Act, and the Uniform Simultaneous Death Act. (4th Hearing-All testimony-Possible vote)
- FOREIGN LAW (Young, R.) To prohibit courts, administrative agencies, and arbitrators from applying foreign law to the detriment of constitutional rights under the United States and Ohio constitutions. (2nd Hearing-Proponent-Possible amendments)
- HB 268
 HUMAN TRAFFICKING (Hall, D., Dever, J.) To expand the list of human trafficking-related convictions and delinquency adjudications that may be expunged, to increase the penalties for compelling prostitution and promoting

prostitution, and to authorize intervention in lieu of conviction for persons charged with committing an offense while a victim of compelling prostitution. (2nd Hearing-Proponent-Possible substitute)

HB 362 STRANGULATION (Stinziano, M., Kunze, S.) To prohibit a person from knowingly impeding the normal breathing or circulation of another by strangulation. (3rd Hearing-All testimony-Possible substitute)

PRISON TERMS (Patmon, B.) To create specifications that impose an additional prison term upon an offender who commits a felony offense against a disabled person or an elderly person and increase the period of commitment to the Department of Youth Services for committing an act that would be a felony offense against a disabled person or an elderly person if committed by an adult, for felony offenses that do not delineate enhanced penalties when a disabled person or an elderly person is the victim of the violation. (3rd Hearing-All testimony)

PROTECTION ORDERS (Boose, T.) To provide that an individual's statutory priority to decide whether or not to withhold or withdraw life-sustaining treatment for the individual's relative is forfeited if the individual is the subject of a temporary protection order or civil protection order and the relative is the alleged victim or if the individual and the relative are married and the parties to a divorce, dissolution, legal separation, or annulment proceeding. (3rd Hearing-All testimony)

House Armed Services, Veterans Affairs & Public Safety (Committee Record) (Chr. Johnson, T., 466-2124), Rm. 017, 3:30 p.m.

FLAG DISPLAY (Coley, B.) To prohibit manufactured homes park operators, condominium associations, neighborhood associations, and landlords from restricting the display of Ohio flags and blue star banners, gold star banners, and other service flags, and to prohibit manufactured homes park operators and landlords from restricting the display of the United States flag. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

NATIONAL GUARD SCHOLARSHIPS (<u>Terhar, L., Brinkman, T.</u>) To specify that a National Guard scholarship recipient who fails to complete the recipient's term of enlistment in the National Guard due to enlistment, warrant, commission, or appointment in the United States armed forces is not liable for repayment of the scholarship. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

OVI OFFENSES (Scherer, G.) To authorize a court to grant unlimited driving privileges with an ignition interlock device to first-time OVI offenders, to expand the penalties related to ignition interlock device violations, to modify the law governing the installation and monitoring of ignition interlock devices, to extend the look back period for OVI and OVI-related offenses from six to ten years, and to modify the penalties for OVI offenses. (4th Hearing-All testimony-Possible substitute & vote)

SB 123 TRAFFIC VIOLATIONS (<u>Hughes, J.</u>) To allow emergency personnel in public safety vehicles to report traffic law violations under certain

circumstances. (3rd Hearing-Opponent & interested party)

SCR 9 IRAN AGREEMENT (<u>Uecker</u>, <u>J.</u>) To urge the Congress of the United States

to disapprove the Iranian nuclear agreement known as the Joint

Comprehensive Plan of Action (2nd Hearing-All testimony-Possible vote)

Sunset Review Committee (Committee Record) (Chr. Brown, T., 466-8104), South Hearing Rm., 3:30 p.m.

 Reviews of Education Management Information System Advisory Board, English Language Arts Academic Standards Review Committee, Mathematics Academic Standards Review Committee, Science Academic Standards Review Committee, Social Studies Academic Standards Review Committee, Straight A Program Advisory Committee, Straight A Program Governing Board, Advisory Board to Assist and Advise in the Operation of the Ohio Center for Autism and Low Incidence, Board of Voting Machines Examiners, Workers' Compensation Board of Directors Nominating Committee, Technical Advisory Committee to Assist Director of the Ohio Coal Development Office, Supervisory Investigative Panel of the State Dental Board, Barber Board

House Community & Family Advancement (Committee Record) (Chr. Derickson, T., 644-5094), Rm. 114, 4 p.m.

HB 298 DRUG TESTING (Schaffer, T., Maag, R.) To require applicants for

unemployment benefits to submit to a drug test under certain circumstances, to require the director of Job & Family Services to operate an Ohio Works First drug testing pilot program and to make an appropriation. (3rd Hearing-Opponent)

HB 286

MARRIAGE (<u>Vitale, N.</u>) To provide that an ordained or licensed minister or religious society is not required to solemnize a marriage and a religious society is not required to allow any building or property of the religious society to be used to host a marriage ceremony if the marriage does not conform to the ordained or licensed minister's or religious society's sincerely held religious beliefs, to provide that an ordained or licensed minister or religious society is not subject to civil or criminal liability for such a denial, and to provide that the state and political subdivisions may not penalize or withhold benefits to an ordained or licensed minister or religious society for such a denial. (3rd Hearing-Opponent)

Senate Education (Committee Record) (Chr. Lehner, P., 466-4538), Finance Hearing Rm., 4 p.m.

HB 299
AUTISM SCHOLARSHIPS (<u>Blessing, L., Rezabek, J.</u>) To permit the temporary, legal, or permanent custodian of a qualified child to apply for an Autism Scholarship. (2nd Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments &

vote)

<u>SB 241</u> EDUCATION PROFESSIONALS (<u>LaRose, F.</u>) With regard to the employment of specified education professionals by city, exempted village, and local school districts. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)

SB 252 CARDIAC ARREST (<u>Hite, C., Patton, T.</u>) With regard to sudden cardiac arrest in youth athletic activities. (2nd Hearing-Proponent-Possible amendments)

Senate Energy & Natural Resources (Committee Record) (Chr. Balderson, T., 466-8076), North Hearing Rm., 4 p.m. or after session

- Confirmation hearing on governor's appointments of Frederick Cash, Ohio Soil and Water Conservation Commission; James Krimmel and John Petkovsek, Environmental Education Council; Kerry Krugh and David Kimberly, Radiation Advisory Council and Craig Porter, Reclamation Commission
- WATER SYSTEMS (Schiavoni, J.) To require a public water system to provide notice of lead contamination not later than thirty days after becoming aware that lead contamination may effect the system's drinking water, to require the Director of Environmental Protection to provide the notice if the public water system fails to provide it, to require employees of the Environmental Protection Agency to provide continuing assistance to a public water system that fails to provide the required notice of lead contamination, and to require the Director to adopt rules that increase the monitoring frequency for lead and copper under specified circumstances. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)
- BB 118 HOUSEHOLD SEWAGE SYSTEMS (Eklund, J.) To authorize a board of county commissioners or municipal legislative authority to elect to withdraw the county or municipal corporation from the application of any rule adopted after January 1, 2014, by the Department of Health governing the design of household sewage treatment systems. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)
- SB 185

 IMPROVEMENT DISTRICTS (Seitz, B.) To revise the law governing special improvement districts created for the purpose of developing and implementing plans for special energy improvement projects. (4th Hearing-All testimony-Possible vote)

Agency Calendar

State Board of Education, 25 S. Front St., Columbus, 8 a.m.

Air Quality Development Authority, 50 W. Broad St., Suite 1718, Columbus, 9:30 a.m.

Home Weatherization Assistance Program Policy Advisory Council, 77 South High Street, Room 1960, Columbus, 2 p.m.

Event Planner

Housing Ohio 2016 Conference, Sheraton Downtown Columbus, 75 E. State St., Columbus
Ohio Bankers League lobby day
Ohio Right to Life legislative day

Legislative leaders news conference on capital bill, Harding Senate Press Rm., Statehouse, Columbus, 9:30 a.m.

House Democrats news conference on bill to restrict local hiring options, PLAs (SB152), George Washington Williams Rm., Statehouse, Columbus, 10:30 a.m. State leaders news conference on efforts to boost fight against prescription drug abuse, CompDrug Inc., 1420 Fields Ave., Columbus, 11:30 a.m.

Sen. Kris Jordan (R-Ostrander) fundraiser, Athletic Club of Columbus, Parlors A&B, 136 E. Broad St., Columbus, 5 p.m., (Host: \$1,000; Sponsor: \$500; Individual attendee: \$350 to Friends of Kris Jordan)

Vorys, Sater, Seymour and Pease LLP Legislative Reception, 52 East Gay St., Columbus, 5 p.m.

Bowling Green State University Statehouse Falcons reception, Capital Club, 41 S. High St., Columbus, 5 p.m., (RSVP to batesdc@bgsu.edu)

Sen. Bob Hackett (R-London) fundraiser, Athletic Club of Columbus, Tally Ho Room, 136 East Broad Street, Columbus, 5 p.m., (Host \$2,500; Chair \$1,000; Sponsor \$500; Individual \$350 to Hackett for Ohio)

Sen. Larry Obhof (R-Medina) fundraiser, Athletic Club of Columbus, Gold Room, 136 East Broad Street, Columbus, 5 p.m., (Event Host \$2,500; Event Sponsor \$1,000; Individual \$500 to Citizens for Obhof)

Sen. Sandra Williams (D-Cleveland) fundraiser, Chintz Room, 121 S. High Street, Columbus, 5 p.m., (Host - \$1000; Sponsor - \$750; Friend - \$500 to Friends of Sandra Williams)

Rep. Steve Hambley (R-Brunswick) and Rep. Mark Romanchuk (R-Ontario) fundraiser, Little Palace, 240 S. 4th Street, Columbus, 5 p.m., (Chair: \$1,000; Host: \$500; Sponsor: \$350 to Hambley for House Committee and/or Romanchuk for State Rep)

Rep. Ron Young (R-Leroy Township) fundraiser, Capital Club, Scarlet & Gray Room, 41 S. High Street, Columbus, 5 p.m., (Chair: \$1,000; Host: \$500; Sponsor: \$350 to Friends of Ron Young)

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Ohio Report for Wednesday, June 1, 2016

Mandel Announces Launch Of Tax-Advantaged Savings, Investment Accounts For People With Disabilities

Brown Touts Columbus Transportation Future As Federal Grant Is Announced For Bus Program

Restraining Order Extended In Planned Parenthood Defund; Group Reaches Settlement Over Fetal Remains

Senate, Committees Set To Return Late September

State Plans Quicker Notification For Harmful Algal Blooms

ODP Questions Trump's Support For Veterans Following Billionaire's Contentious Press Conference

Politics Notebook: ACLU Concerned With RNC Media Restrictions; Brown Talks Pensions; Portman Airs First TV Ads...

Capitol Scene: Kasich Names Kalmbach Press Secretary; Buckeye Institute Adds Research, Communications Staff

Governor's Appointments

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Volume #85, Report #105 -- Wednesday, June 1, 2016 Mandel Announces Launch Of Tax-Advantaged Savings, Investment Accounts For People With Disabilities

State Treasurer Josh Mandel on Wednesday announced the launch of a program enabling people living with certain disabilities to save and invest money without losing eligibility for certain public benefits programs.

Earnings from the State Treasury Achieving a Better Life Experience Accounts aren't subject to federal income tax and the money in the accounts would be exempt from state and federal means testing for programs such as Medicaid, Supplemental Security Income or Social Security Disability Insurance.

"As treasurer of Ohio I am proud to serve as administrator of STABLE Accounts," Treasurer Mandel said in a statement. "By assisting individuals and families with saving and investing, we are supporting persons with disabilities to maintain health, independence and quality of life."

Ohio is the first state to provide the accounts, which were made possible by federal legislation in 2014, according to the treasurer's office. Legislation (HB 155) signed by Gov. John Kasich last July directed the treasurer to implement the program, originally named ABLE.

The accounts are designed to help people with disabilities gain more economic opportunities without jeopardizing their eligibility for care under government programs.

"Today is a historical achievement as now ABLE accounts are a reality for all individuals with disabilities in America thanks to the hard work of so many dedicated advocates from across the US," said National Down Syndrome Society President Sara Hart Weir. "We couldn't be more proud to participate in the launch of the STABLE Accounts in Ohio."

Ohio's program is open to anyone across the country who meets eligibility requirements, though the fees are higher for people who live out-of-state. Ohio residents will pay \$2.50 per month to maintain the accounts, while residents of other states will pay \$5 per month. Ohio residents will pay an asset-based fee of between 0.19-0.34%, depending on investment options, while out-of-state residents will pay a fee between 0.45- 0.60%.

Participants can use the money from the account for qualified expenses, including education, health care, housing and transportation. Participants will be able to choose between five different investment strategies that range in risk levels, including a banking approach that offers no risk and is backed by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.

"Ohio, by providing these tax-advantaged savings accounts to children and adults with disabilities, has begun to pave the way for a transformative opportunity for one of our country's most disenfranchised populations," said Christopher Rodriguez, senior public policy adviser of the National Disability Institute. "The benefits of these STABLE Accounts will surely promote people with disabilities, and their families, to save for their futures and become a more significant part of the economic mainstream."

The accounts have a yearly contribution limit of \$14,000. Accounts can be set up for free on the program's website, and an initial contribution of \$50 is required.

The legislation that enabled the program passed the House and Senate unanimously last year. The bill's sponsors, Reps. Jonathan Dever (R-Cincinnati) and Margaret Conditt (R-Liberty Twp.) said it would help lift people with disabilities out of poverty by allowing them to make and save more money without losing vital programs for their care. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, May 20, 2015)

Brown Touts Columbus Transportation Future As Federal Grant Is Announced For Bus Program

Federal officials were in Columbus Wednesday to announce a \$37 million grant designed to improve public transit in a corridor of Columbus.

The grant, presented by Federal Transit Administration Acting Administrator Carolyn Flowers and U.S. Sen. Sherrod Brown (D-Avon), is designed to help fund a bus rapid transit system along the Cleveland Avenue corridor in Northeast Columbus.

Sen. Brown praised the system as a way of improving access to jobs and increasing opportunities for people who use the route. The system will cut down on the time people spend waiting for buses and riding buses, he said.

"One of the beauties of doing this right in such a progressive city like Columbus is it will make people's lives better and make their time more theirs," he said.

The bus rapid transit program, known as CMAX, will stretch from downtown to Westerville, with 32 bus stops, two new park-and-ride lots and 15 new compressed natural gas buses. It is expected to launch in January 2018.

COTA President and CEO W. Curtis Stitt praised Sen. Brown for his work to maintain the level of funding for public transit programs in the latest long-term transportation authorization bill.

"Without his steadfast support, funding for this would have been impossible," Mr. Stitt said.

After the event and ceremonial grant signing, Sen. Brown said he believed the new bus line would help Columbus win the U.S. Department of Transportation's Smart City Challenge.

The Ohio Legislature last week adopted a resolution (SCR 212) urging the DOT to choose Columbus. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, May 24, 2016)

Winning the Smart City Challenge, he said would be bigger than just winning \$40 million for transportation programs, he said. Columbus groups have offered an additional \$90 million in investment if Columbus, one of seven national finalists, lands the grant this summer.

"It makes us bigger as a city and as a state nationally," Sen. Brown said. "There will be all kinds of creative people in Central Ohio parlaying that into all kinds of things."

Sen. Brown also said he didn't think the CMAX program precludes Columbus from receiving funding for possible light rail programs later on.

"We're not saying no to light rail," he said. "I think that nothing's off the table."

Restraining Order Extended In Planned Parenthood Defund; Group Reaches Settlement Over Fetal Remains

Planned Parenthood scored two legal victories in recent days, including Wednesday's extension of a temporary restraining order preventing the state from defunding the organization.

The TRO extension was issued by federal Judge Michael Barrett and will remain in effect until Aug. 5. Another hearing on the matter is scheduled for Aug. 2.

Planned Parenthood cheered the ruling in a statement issued Wednesday afternoon.

"Without the action by the court today, some of Ohio's most vulnerable citizens would be left without health care options. Especially for families in underserved areas, Planned Parenthood is the only place to turn," said Iris Harvey, president and CEO of Planned Parenthood of Greater Ohio.

"Our government should be supporting programs that serve to improve the health and safety of our communities, not using Ohioans as political pawns. We want the people of Ohio to know one thing: Our doors are staying open, no matter what."

Right to Life Ohio blasted the ruling as judicial activism.

"The decision to extend the restraining order casts a light on the might and influence of Big Abortion, even in a pro-life state. Despite the will of Ohio voters, an unelected judge just halted their democratically enacted, constitutional law by another two months," spokeswoman Katherine Franklin said in a statement. "The conscience rights of all Ohioans, including pro-life Ohioans, matter. By preventing the enactment of this legislation, the judge is sending the opposite signal to half of Ohio's voters."